

Hafa Adai!

CEC to decide tomorrow who are qualified to run. **PAGE 4**

DLNR awarded \$450K to prevent spread of Brown Tree Snake. **PAGE 5**

\$1

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Court dismisses contempt charge vs Torres

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Judge Pro Tem Alberto Tolentino has issued an order dismissing the contempt charge filed by the Office of the Attorney General against Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in the ongoing criminal suit filed against him.

Last Tuesday, Tolentino issued multiple orders in the criminal suit filed against Torres. One of the orders issued

was an order to grant, in part, and deny, in part, Torres' motion for the withdrawal or dis-
See COURT on Page 4

Cops have insufficient protective gear

Desk audit didn't find DPS:

- Engaging in retaliatory transfers of staff
- Notes cops' vital role in operation against pandemic
- Overtime justified

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety has insufficient amount of protective gear for police officers, who also need more training, and that their overtime is justified in playing a

vital role in the CNMI's operation against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Those were among the findings of a desk audit conducted by the Office of Personnel Management, which also didn't find DPS manage-
See COPS on Page 4



MEETING THE NEEDS OF VETERANS

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, second from left, met with U.S. Veterans Affairs Deputy Secretary Donald M. Remy, third from left, and other U.S. VA officials yesterday at the Governor's Office on Capitol Hill to discuss the needs and potential resources for veterans in the CNMI.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

See story on Page 2

USCG medevacs man from Agrihan



SANTA RITA, Guam—A 50-year-old man was medically evacuated by the U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Myrtle Hazard* crew from Agrihan Island to Saipan last Aug. 18.

"Called to render aid to a person in need on Agrihan Island, we made our best speed to effect a quick transport to Saipan," said Lt. Jalle Merritt, commanding officer of *Myrtle*

A 50-year-old man is medically evacuated by the USCGC *Myrtle Hazard* crew from Agrihan Island on Aug. 17, 2022.

U.S. COAST GUARD/USCGC MYRTLE HAZARD

Hazard. "The evolution was largely successful due to the joint effort of our assets both

See USCG on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

INSIDE

NATION

More than 100 documents bearing classified markings were recovered from an initial batch of 15 boxes retrieved from Mar-a-Lago earlier this year.

PAGE 12

ENVIRONMENT

Millennials and Gen Z are far more likely than older generations to carry their political and ethical views with them wherever they go.

PAGE 14

LIFE & STYLE

"House of the Dragon" is now the most-watched series premiere in the history of HBO.

PAGE 15



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Local

Torres meets with Remy, other US Veterans Affairs officials

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres yesterday met with U.S. Veterans Affairs Deputy Secretary Donald M. Remy and U.S. VA officials to discuss needs and potential resources for veterans in the CNMI.

Present at the meeting included CNMI Veterans Affairs Office acting executive director Ramon Basa and members of the CNMI Veterans Affairs Office. Executive director Stanley T. Iakopo is currently off-island on military leave.

Torres thanked the deputy secretary for taking the time to visit the CNMI to discuss these important needs and

priorities for our CNMI veterans stating,

"It is an honor to welcome the honorable Veterans Affairs Deputy Secretary. My administration continues in pursuit of our commitment to finding ways to better serve the veterans in our community who have sacrificed so much for our freedoms and have responded to the call of service to our country," he said.

Remy commended and encouraged Torres and the CNMI Veterans Affairs Office's outreach efforts to hear from veterans at the veterans town hall meetings, which

included meetings on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"We are working to improve our data collection with regard to our CNMI veterans, and to finding solutions to our veterans' direct needs, especially those pertaining to the increase of quality healthcare access," said Torres.

"We just broke ground on the Rota Veterans Cemetery, and plans are in the works for the Tinian Veterans Cemetery. We look forward to developing more programs and ways to support our CNMI veterans and their families," stated Torres. **(PR)**

Emergency shut down of Engine No. 1 causes island-wide power outage

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that at 10:35am yesterday CUC experienced an island-wide power outage, due to the emergency shut down of Engine No. 1 resulting in an

island-wide power outage.

CUC Power Plant electricians are currently assessing the problem and will make the necessary repairs to re-energize the feeder circuits. Updates will follow as soon as they are available. CUC appreciates your

understanding and patience as it continues to restore power services to the island.

For more information, contact the CUC Hotline (236-4333) or continue to monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates. **(CUC)**

Precinct 2 End-of-Summer Cleanup this Saturday

Precinct 2 residents are invited to clean up around their homes and neighborhoods this Saturday, Aug. 27, 2022. Bring household waste, roadside litter, yard debris, metals, and junk appliances to the Mount Carmel Field in Chalan Kanoa (in front of the cemetery) between 8am and 12pm. Please

note: no hazardous materials will be accepted.

For more information, or assistance with trash pickup or supplies on Saturday, call the Office of Rep. Christina Sablan at 664-8829 or 285-5392, or the Office of Rep. John Paul Sablan at 664-8841. **(PR)**

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JGO files appellate brief in support of Superior Court's decision to dismiss Torres' suit

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Essentially, the JGO brief pointed out the inconsistencies and internal contradictions of the governor's legal arguments on legislative immunity. The JGO brief also demonstrated that, contrary to the governor's position, the relevant case law holds that

See JGO on Next Page

The House of Representatives' Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee has filed an appellate brief in support of the Superior Court's previous decision to dismiss the lawsuit of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres against the JGO.

Because Torres has recently begun the process of appealing the Superior Court's decision to dismiss his case against the JGO committee with the Supreme Court, the House JGO Committee filed its appellate brief last Aug. 18, in support of the Superior court's decision.

According to JGO chair Rep. Celina Babauta (D-Saipan), the JGO believes that the Superior Court reasonably granted their motion to dismiss the governor's case.

"After the JGO issued its subpoena, the governor decided that he would disregard the CNMI Constitution and ignore his legal obligation to appear. He sued the JGO rather than answer questions under oath. We filed a motion to dismiss based on legislative immunity and the Superior Court reasonably granted our motion," she said.

Babauta explained that they believe the court's decision was reasonable because the committee has absolute immunity from being sued.

"The committee had absolute immunity from being sued when it was engaged in a legitimate legislative activity. The JGO argued that the Committee itself possesses the very same immunity that individual members possess because the JGO investigation was a legitimate legislative activity that would be immune from suit. The Superior Court agreed with the JGO Committee and reasonably granted our motion," Babauta said.

"The Executive Branch cannot continue to flout the rule of law. The committee looks forward to oral arguments on October 27, 2022, and to putting this matter to rest, once and for all," Babauta continued.

Meanwhile Rep. Donald Manglona (Ind-Rota) argues that the subpoena the House issued, which was ultimately what triggered Torres to launch his lawsuit in the first place, was lawful.

"At the heart of the matter, the JGO issued a lawful subpoena based on the CNMI Constitution and CNMI statutes. The law of every other state and federal jurisdiction all supports the JGO's position that the committee had every right to issue a legislative subpoena for the governor to answer questions related to his misuse of public funds," he said.



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16P446	2016	MAZDA3 SPORT	\$16,115	\$17,995	18R289	2018	FORD F-150 XLT	\$30,387	\$27,995
17P365	2017	HYUNDAI TUCSON SE	\$19,752	\$17,995	18P452	2018	MAZDA MX5 CLUB CONVERTIBLE	\$30,257	\$27,995
17P370	2017	TOYOTA COROLLA LE	\$20,726	\$18,995	18P345A	2018	HYUNDAI TUCSON LIMITED	\$30,451	\$28,995
8H054E	2019	HYUNDAI KONA SE	\$21,651	\$18,995	16P364	2016	TOYOTA 4RUNNER SR5 SPORT	\$35,198	\$29,995
21D129A	2018	HYUNDAI KONA SE	\$20,789	\$18,995	13P359	2013	TOYOTA FJ CRUISER SPORT	\$33,890	\$29,995
14P466	2014	CHEVY CAMARO	\$19,995	\$19,995	20H141E	2018	HYUNDAI GENESIS-G90	\$38,204	\$34,995
16P424	2016	NISSAN MAXIMA	\$27,062	\$19,995	19P367	2019	HONDA RIDGELINE	\$47,459	\$39,995
18P393	2018	NISSAN ROGUE SPORT	\$22,661	\$19,995	10P447	2010	FORD RAPTOR	\$38,151	\$39,995
7P460	2007	TOYOTA TACOMA SR5 4WD	\$25,887	\$19,995	18P478	2018	FORD EXPLORER	\$41,387	\$39,995
22M032A	2018	HONDA CIVIC EX	\$23,840	\$21,995	21H096D	2021	HYUNDAI PALISADE LIMITED	\$45,870	\$46,995
18HS947	2018	HONDA CIVIC EX	\$23,087	\$21,995	19P455	2019	KIA STINGER GT2	\$45,870	\$44,995
22M021A	2019	MAZDA6 GT SEDAN	\$29,936	\$24,995	17P347	2017	JEEP WRANGLER	\$39,134	\$49,995

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CEC to decide tomorrow who are qualified to run

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission board is expected to certify tomorrow, Friday, those found to be qualified to run in the Nov. 8 general elections.

CEC board chair Jesus I. Sablan set a board meeting tomorrow at 1:30pm at CEC's conference room in Susupe and included certifica-

tion of candidates in the agenda.

Sablan also placed in the agenda the candidacy nominating petition of Alfredo T. Taimanao and approval of ballot layout.

CEC executive director Kayla S. Igitol said yesterday that with respect to Taimanao's case, the commissioners will deliberate during the meeting and come up with a decision.



Sablan



Taimanao

Taimanao, a U.S. Army veteran, is running for Rota mayor as an

independent.

The commissioners held a hearing last Monday on Taimanao's appeal from CEC's challenge to his candidacy for not meeting the residency requirement.

After the hearing, chair Sablan placed the matter under advisement.

The commissioners also held an executive session Monday regarding the candidacy of Edwin Raymond

Quitugua, who is seeking a seat in the Saipan Municipal Council.

Quitugua failed to appear after he called CEC executive director Igitol that morning, Monday, that he could not make it at the hearing as he was in the hospital.

CEC also challenged Quitugua's candidacy for failing to meet the residency requirement.

There are 102 candidates for 48 positions that are up for grabs in the election. The CEC board has to certify the candidates who meet the requirements of election law.

COPS

From Page 1

ment engaging in retaliatory transfers of staff.

OPM concluded that in general, DPS personnel perform their duties and responsibilities according to their class specification.

However, OPM underscored the need to work with the department to develop position descriptions more specific to the work they perform in their assigned unit, section, or division.

OPM concluded that DPS appears to be adequately staffed, but the pandemic disrupted personnel's normally assigned duties and stations by COVID-19 assignments, while they were still required to continue the necessary operations in all areas of the department.

OPM determined that DPS personnel transfers to another unit, section, or division are documented in their file with the department and personnel are provided 3-4 days advance notice prior to a new schedule being issued.

OPM said although the DPS commissioner is the final decision authority, Internal Affairs personnel work collaboratively and in accordance with the policy and procedure manual to conduct investigations and make recommendations to the commissioner.

OPM completed their desk audit report based on their review of the DPS on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota for the period November 2021 to July 2022.

OPM conducted interviews with 118 out of 249 DPS personnel on Saipan, 26 out of 29 DPS personnel on Tinian, and 45 out of 46 DPS personnel on Rota, which includes both law enforcement officers and non-law enforcement personnel.

OPM director Frances Torres-Salas submitted the desk audit report last Aug. 2 to House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan).

Torres-Salas said OPM's review was conducted for the purpose of determining whether DPS was providing services in an economical, efficient, and effective manner; whether its goals and objects were being achieved, and whether it was complying with applicable governmental and departmental policies and procedures related to employee and employer relations.

The director said OPM's core focuses were to analyze the scope of training resources and identifying reasons for high turnover of staff.

OPM acknowledged DPS' vital role it has been playing in the operation of the COVID-19 Task Force and noted that in the initial stages of this desk audit report, DPS personnel were assigned to various areas of Saipan to cover quarantine sites and

COVID-19 testing sites.

These assignments included areas such as Kanoa Resort, the former Mariana Resort & Spa, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Koblerville Youth Center, and the Medical Care and Treatment Site (MCATS) located at the Commonwealth Healthcare Center.

Currently, DPS personnel are assigned at the designated quarantine site at Kanoa Resort and two vaccination sites—one at the Koblerville Youth Center and one at the MCATS.

OPM said each designated site is staffed by two DPS officers per shift at 12 hours per shift.

OPM said while they interviewed DPS personnel and the commissioner, there were mixed views as to whether the department was adequately staffed or not.

The DPS commissioner stated that, currently, officers work on the average around 30-40 hours of overtime per employee per pay period.

OPM said the commissioner disclosed that overtime requests for non-law enforcement personnel are kept to a minimum, limited to on as as-needed basis.

OPM said the requests for overtime will continue due to the pandemic and that all COVID-19 related overtime requests are funded through the COVID-19 account.

OPM said the DPS commissioner stated that without COVID-19 related overtime requests, the overtime

hours would be significantly reduced to 10-20 hours per personnel per pay period.

OPM said the discussion of transfers and protection for retaliatory transfers were raised during a handful of interviews.

However, OPM noted that there was no mention of retaliation.

USCG

From Page 1

afloat and ashore. A big thank you goes to the folks in both Guam and Saipan who provided timely communications relay to the patient while our crew was en route, and another goes to the supportive village who made a creative pickup of the patient as safe and seamless as possible."

Watchstanders at Joint Rescue Sub-Center Guam were notified by Emergency Operations Center Saipan personnel Monday, Aug. 15, of an emergency medical transport request to bring a man reportedly experiencing chest pains 245 miles from Agrihan to Saipan.

Agrihan is a small island, 17 square miles in size, in the CNMI. While there were residents in the past, including Chamorro residents documented by Spanish sailors in the 1500s and coconut plantations in the 1900s, there are currently no permanent settlements or medical services.

The watch consulted the U.S. Coast Guard duty flight surgeon about the man's condition, and he recommended a transfer by boat to care as soon as possible. The Saipan EOC team

OPM said the concerns were of undocumented transfers, lack of training in the area to which they were being transferred and mentions of unjustifiable reasons for the transfer.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

reported they could not conduct the evacuation due to the worsening sea state and requested U.S. Coast Guard assistance.

Watchstanders directed the *Myrtle Hazard* crew, already underway, to divert from their patrol. Agrihan has no developed harbor or pier. Watchstanders, communicating through the Saipan EOC, determined *Myrtle Hazard's* small boat could access the adjacent lagoon. The shore party vectored in the U.S. Coast Guard team with smoke signals on the beach. On Wednesday, Aug. 17, the *Myrtle Hazard* crew successfully transferred the man to the cutter. The team safely transferred him to a waiting Saipan EMS personnel in good condition Thursday, Aug. 18, before returning to Guam. The *Myrtle Hazard* is one of three 154-foot Sentinel-class fast response cutters home-ported in Guam.

"This case exemplifies the importance of partnerships and good communication to get someone from an extremely remote area to a higher level of medical care," said Merritt. "Through this team effort, *Myrtle Hazard* and our sister ships can continue to meet the needs of all in Micronesia." (USCG)

COURT

From Page 1

qualification of the Office of the Attorney General as a prosecutor.

It was in this motion that the judge ordered for the dismissal of the contempt charge against Torres.

Specifically, Tolentino found that chief solicitor J. Robert Glass, the head prosecutor in the criminal case against Torres, may have been exposed to privileged and confidential information that prevents Glass from prosecuting defendant for contempt therefore the charge was dismissed.

"Defendant's motion to disqualify the OAG is hereby granted in part as the court finds there is an impermissible exposure to privileged and confidential information that prevents Glass from prosecuting defendant for contempt for Count 14 [contempt]. Count 14 is hereby dismissed without prejudice," the order stated.

As for the motion to disqualify Glass from prosecuting Torres for the other 13 charges stated in the complaint, Tolentino found no conflict and denied the governor's motion.

"By order of the court, defendant's motion to disqualify the OAG is hereby denied part as there is no conflict preventing chief solicitor Glass from charging and prosecuting defendant for Counts I-XIII as charged in the information," Tolentino said.

According to the order, the defense previously argued that Glass knew Torres, through his counsels, were making Open Government Act requests, a procedure being utilized in defendant's separate case.

Defendant further argued that Glass could have only known about defendant's other Open Government Act requests if he had information from the representation of defendant in the separate case and therefore the screen, a procedure done by Attorney General Edward Manibusan to ensure Glass was not exposed to privileged and confidential information on Torres' other civil cases, was ineffective.

Tolentino found that evidence previously presented in court indicated it was likely Glass was exposed to privileged information regarding non-appearance to a legislative subpoena as charged in Count 14 - Contempt.

"[Torres' counsel] Gil Birnbrich

testified to exchanging emails regarding Glass' personal review of the Legislative Subpoena. Manibusan gave a legal opinion in court as to a theory of prosecution of Count 14 in the information that was based upon the contents of the Legislative Subpoena. Whether Glass merely read a draft of the Legislative Subpoena for grammatical edits or had any input on the final product, he had exposure to the confidential and privileged legal theories contained within the Legislative Subpoena in August 2020. The court finds Glass is disqualified from prosecuting defendant for contempt based upon exposure to confidential information in the Legislative Subpoena LSR previous to the waiver of privilege in court," the judge said.

Tolentino stated that it may be proper for Count 14 to be brought in a separate case by a properly screened assistant attorney General.

"The parties may also stipulate to a special prosecutor to handle Count 14. However, Count 14 as charged in the Information cannot continue in the present case brought by Glass," Tolentino said.

JGO

From Page 3

the Executive Branch is not allowed to sue the members of a legislative committee.

The brief stated that Torres, through his four on-island and off-island attorneys, asserts in one section of his brief that the Supreme Court may not consider federal or state cases as persuasive authority in interpreting the CNMI Constitution.

However, the governor allegedly makes this argument for the first time on appeal. In the trial court, he instead urged the court to follow federal and state cases on legislative immunity.

"Arguments raised for the first time on appeal are generally waived or disregarded, the committee argues," the brief said.

Lastly, the JGO brief addressed the governor's arguments that the Superior Court improperly considered the House Minority Report from the

21st Legislature because his underlying Complaint did not refer to this document.

"The governor's brief falsely asserted that the JGO investigation was not referred to the committee from the House," the document stated.

Ultimately, the JGO stands firm in their belief that Judge Pro Tem Timothy H. Bellas made a careful and nuanced ruling on the committee's legislative immunity which was consistent with the Supreme Court's precedents.

"His ruling on judicial notice of the Minority Report was similarly insightful and consistent with controlling law. There are three co-equal branches of the Commonwealth government, each has a critical role to play. The governor has the audacity to ask the one branch of the CNMI government, the Judiciary, to allow him to ignore the CNMI laws that provide for our Legislature to perform its constitutional duty to check and balance the Executive Branch," said the brief.



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DLNR awarded \$450K to prevent spread of Brown Tree Snake

The Department of Public Lands and Natural Resources has been awarded \$450,000 for its Brown Tree Snake Interdiction Program, according to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) Tuesday.

Sablan disclosed in his e-kilili newsletter that the grant funds will be used to help pay for prevention and detection programs and fund Division of Fish and Wildlife inspectors

who inspect planes, vessels, and cargo at CNMI's air and seaports.



Sablan

He said the Interior Department's Office of Insular Affairs announced Tuesday the award to DLNR.

Sablan said funded annually by the U.S. Congress, the Office of Insular Affairs' Brown Tree Snake Program received \$3.8 million in fiscal year 2022.

Fiscal Year 2022 funding provided for the Brown Tree Snake control program was divided among the CNMI, Guam, Hawaii, the

U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Interior.

OIA Assistant Secretary Carmen G. Cantor in an-

nouncing the funding said mitigating the threat that the Brown Tree Snake continues to pose for Guam's ecological and economic systems

remains a priority as well as preventing spread to the CNMI, Hawaii, and the Micronesia region. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

46 food establishments get Grade A

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Environmental Health Disease Prevention conducted sanitary inspections on retail, eating, and drinking establishments last July. Through this release, EHDP is providing (a) names

of establishments by inspection grade, and (b) names of establishments which were ordered to close for serious violations of health and sanitation standards. For these establishments, the suspension date and the date they were

certified to resume operations are provided.

Classifications for Food Safety Rating for an establishment receiving a score of:

- 0-10 Demerits Grade A
- 11-20 Demerits Grade B
- 21-30 Demerits Grade C
- > 30 Demerits Closure/Suspension

RESULTS

Grade A:

- Travel by Foody's Gift Shop, San Antonio
- Uni Catering, Chalan Laulau
- Gold Ribbon Restaurant, Chalan Piao
- Dandan Bakery, San Vicente
- Terry's Snack Bar, Chalan Kanoa
- Mobil Mart, Chalan Kianoa
- Loco & Taco Dining Bar, Garapan
- Safe House Bar, Garapan
- I Love Saipan, Garapan
- Top Shelf Wine and Spirits, Gualo Rai
- Midnight Karaoke, San Jose
- Mobil Retail, Chalan Kianoa
- LN Market, Chalan Kianoa
- SPE Wholesale, Chalan Kianoa
- Island Café, Garapan
- Pate Puffs & Pastries, Chalan Kanoa
- Post Chocolate Snack Bar, Susupe
- By Yours Truly Bakery, Garapan
- Capitol Hill Market, Capitol Hill
- Gold's Gym, China Town
- Great Harvest Bakery, Chalan Kanoa
- JTAF Kitchen, As Lito
- Meal's 4 You, Susupe
- Umibouzu Restaurant, Garapan
- Global Trader's Wholesale, As Lito
- CTSI Warehousing, Lower Base
- Pacific Fish Mart, Garapan
- Naked Fish Bar and Grill, Garapan
- Blue Haus Retail, Garapan
- L&Q Wholesale, As Lito
- T-Bar, Garapan
- Happy Market, As Lito
- Jang Gun Restaurant, Garapan
- Yaong Wholesale, Airport Road
- Yaong Wholesale, Gualo Rai
- Yaong Wholesale, Chalan Laulau
- Triple J Five Star Wholesale, Susupe
- JG Water Company, Garapan
- Hana Trading Wholesale, Lower Base
- Lao Market, Chalan Kanoa
- Hafa Adai Saipan Gift Shop, Garapan
- Terry N Bolis, Kagman a. Snack Bar
- b. Catering
- Luen Fung Ent. Saipan, Gualo Rai
- a. Retail
- b. Butcher and packing facility
- c. Wholesale
- Joeten Hafa Adai Shopping Center, Garapan
- a. Retail
- b. Butcher and packing facility
- c. Snack Bar
- Joeten Supermarket, Susupe
- a. Butcher & packing facility
- b. Wholesale

Grade B:

- Marianas Water Manufacture, Papago
- August Supermarket, Garapan
- Fisherman's Wharf Restaurant, Garapan
- New Matty's BBQ Stand, As Lito
- Pepoy's Restaurant, Chalan Kanoa

Grade C: 0 establishments *(PR)*

Wanted: Parts / Service counter person, must have knowledge of general heavy equipment parts. 12.00 to 15.00 dollars.

Go to Hawthornehiring.com to apply.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: DPW22-ITB NO.: 42200155

SUBMISSION DATE: September 23, 2022 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"Construction of Sidewalk
in Tanapag along Route 30"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The project package will be available on or after **August 25, 2022** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division required for each set.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **September 09, 2022**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 14, 2022** to **Ms. Lorraine S. Villagomez, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ MICHAEL A. BORJA
ACTING SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT SERVICES

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
P.O. Box 501055 Saipan MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 | Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail: cpa.admin@cpa.com
Website: https://cnmports.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 05-2022

Opening date: August 15, 2022

Location: SAIPAN

Positions: (1) ARFF General Maintenance
(1) ARFF Mechanic II
(1) ARFF Mechanic III

Closing date: September 02, 2022

SALARY
PL 3/1 to 3/12 (\$8.01/hr. to \$13.70/hr.)
PL 6/1 to 6/12 (\$9.27/hr. to \$15.85/hr.)
PL 12/1 to 12/12 (\$12.42/hr. to \$21.25/hr.)

Location: TINIAN

Positions: (2) General Maintenance I

SALARY
PL 2/1 to 2/12 (\$7.63/hr. to \$13.04/hr.)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than 5:00 P.M. on Friday, September 02, 2022.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.tenorio@cnmports.com or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a **Special Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Friday, August 26, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at the MVA Conference Room.**

MEETING AGENDA

- 1) Preliminary Matters**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
- 2) Public Comments**
- 3) Committee Reports**
 - a. Tourism Resumption Investment Plan (TRIP)
 - i. Japan
 - ii. Grant Program
- 4) New Business**
 - a. Destination Enhancement
 - i. Governor's Council of Economic Advisers
 1. Destination Transformation
 - b. Memorandum of Understanding
 - i. Department of Public Lands and Department of Lands and Natural Resources
 - ii. Northern Marianas College and Community Development Institute
 - c. Asia Dive Expo Singapore 2022
 - d. MVA Expenditure Authority
- 5) Executive Session**
- 6) Miscellaneous/Announcements**
- 7) Adjournment**

/s/ Viola Alepuyo
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6824/23/22 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: pppo@marianas.edu, Website: www.marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

JANITORIAL SERVICES
NMC IFB 22-0006

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of Janitorial, Housekeeping and Cleaning Services for the As Terlaje Campus.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. P, commencing Thursday, August 25, 2022 between the hours of 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Bid Packages are due no later than 2:00 p.m., September 26, 2022, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. P, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB email to Anita Camacho (ppmo@marianas.edu). This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittal shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by:

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement & Property Manager

Substantial progress made in cleanup of Yutu debris site on Tinian



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this photo from early July, APEC personnel at the Super Typhoon Yutu waste and debris site on Tinian clean up piles of burnt solid waste at the site. Also pictured is large plastic sheeting which prevents contaminants from the burned materials from seeping into the soil.

Substantial progress has been made in the cleanup of the Super Typhoon Yutu debris site on Tinian that caught fire. The firm leading the cleanup and soil testing of the site is expected to complete the processing and shipping of metal recyclables by October and notified CNMI partners that it recently received soil sample test results. The soil test results will inform how the remaining waste present at the site will be managed and disposed of.

The contracted firm, Allied Pacific Environmental Consulting, Inc., mobilized in early July. APEC's scope of work includes the sorting and shipping of metal debris; covering the areas affected by the fire with a plastic liner to prevent rainwater runoff of contaminants; separating materials on plastic sheeting; and collecting soil samples at the site. According to its website, APEC is a full-service environmental consulting firm with offices in Saipan and Guam.

In a meeting last Aug. 18, APEC office manager Scott Malin informed representatives from the Department of Public Works on Tinian, Of-

fice of the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan, and Office of Planning and Development that APEC projects the sorting, baling, and shipping of metal debris found on the site to be completed in October. The metal debris will be sent to Saipan and recycled by subcontractor Triple Star Recycling.

The CNMI representatives were also informed that APEC received test results from the on-site soil samples taken by APEC and sent to labs in the U.S. for analysis. Once the results are reviewed and verified, the data will be submitted to and reviewed by the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality. After their review, BECQ will provide instructions on the further handling, processing, and disposal of the potentially hazardous materials.

APEC continues to sort soil and burned materials and continues to process recyclable metal found at the site.

APEC has been engaged and responsive with local agencies and partners, holding regular meetings with DPW, MOTA, and OPD staff on Tinian to give updates on the work being done and to

provide weekly reports with photos from the site. APEC's reports and other findings will help further develop the site cleanup work plan. (PR)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Deolie Dalag : FCD-DI
Tanjusay : CIVIL ACTION NO.
Petitioner, : 21-0527-FCD
vs. :
Flora Mia :
Canapi Badua : **SUMMONS FOR**
Respondent. : **PUBLICATION**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PMB 700 BOX 10000 Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 29th day of December, 2021.

/s/
CLERK OF COURT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In one of its daily updates with CNMI partners, APEC reported last Aug. 22 that pieces of an old metal tank and pallets of baled metal loaded at the dock on Tinian for shipping and recycling. The metal debris will be sent to Saipan for recycling by subcontractor Triple Star Recycling.

Stay Connected Payment Notice

We want to keep you connected to everything that matters to you. To avoid any service interruptions to your residential, business, or government account, please make payment by **Thursday, August 25, 2022.**

For your convenience, enjoy more ways and locations to pay:

- IT&E Oleai store – Open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM
- Kada Dia Payment Center - Open Monday through Friday from 11 AM to 3:30 PM
- Angel Market – Open daily from 7 AM to 10 PM (Please bring your billing statement. Cash only.)
- Online at store.ite.net/onlinebilling
- Over the phone by calling 670-682-4ITE (4483).



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority
Office of the Governor
"Driving You Forward"

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) relocated to the Administrative Building and Maintenance Facility located in Lowerbase, Saipan across the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Office. In addition, COTA's One-Call/One-Click Transportation Resource Center's contact number has changed to (670) 236-2682 effective August 25, 2022.

For additional information please contact COTA's Administrative Office at (670) 664-2682. Thank you.

Sincerely,
/s/ **Amalia M. Magofna**
Acting Special Assistant
for Public Transportation

2nd Floor Rm. 216, Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 664-2682; Fax: (670) 664-2692; Email: alfredac.maratita@gov.mp

Name: Antonio G. Lloren
Address: P.O. Box 505580
Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 285-4122
Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ANTONIO G. LLOREN : FCD-DI
Petitioner, : CIVIL ACTION
vs. : NO. 21-0138
ANGELA P. LLOREN :
Respondent, : **SUMMONS**

TO: ANGELA P. LLOREN

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to ANTONIO G. LLOREN whose address is P.O. Box 505580, Saipan MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 12th day of April 2021.

/s/
Clerk of Court

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

National call system for mental health crises is having its own crisis

The newly established 988 national hotline, a 911-style emergency call system for people contemplating suicide or other mental health crises, has hit a pretty major acceptance snag. The system is barely a month old, yet there's already a movement afoot to boycott it. Some users say it can make existing mental trauma even worse.

Despite being advertised as a way for people in crisis to call and talk to a professional, users warn that 988 counselors could wind up alerting police, who have the power to track down callers and take them to mental health facilities where they are involuntarily committed.

That's a significant potential flaw that should have been anticipated long before the 988 system went live on July 16. The National Suicide Hotline Designation Act was enacted in 2020 to address a growing problem with people in crisis who haven't been able to get the help they need. Easy access to guns by people contemplating suicide has made it even more urgent to establish a quick way for people to get help by phone. The National Alliance on Mental Illness says one in four fatal police shootings between 2015 and 2020 involved people with a mental illness. Millions of people a year show up in hospital emergency rooms seeking help for mental health crises, overwhelming hospitals and very often leading to delays or the neglect of people needing help.

That's what made a 988 system seem like a popular alternative. The Federal Communications Commission established an exclusive nationwide number that should route callers either by phone or text to a mental health professional.

The reception some callers are getting doesn't appear to bode well, and people are taking to the internet to voice their complaints and warn others away from using the system. On Instagram, Kaiser Health News reported, one user posted: "988 is not friendly. Don't call it, don't post it, don't share it, without knowing the risks."

Another post stated: "Hotline staffers use a set of suicide screening questions to decide whether to initiate an 'active rescue.' The [system] calls the police on approximately 20% of callers," with geotracking technology revealing where the caller is located. Police are not necessarily equipped to de-escalate such crisis situations and can make it worse by barking orders and even drawing their firearms if the person in crisis is holding a weapon.

Some 988 users complain of getting an unhelpful or unempathetic reception. The prospect of involuntary commitment—plus a substantial medical bill—is adding to the public skepticism.

See NATIONAL on Next Page



Here's how parents can meet the new school year with less anxiety

By CORY FRANKLIN and MARY HALL
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Fall may not yet be in the air, but school definitely is. Camps and family vacations are ending, and children are queuing up in pediatric waiting rooms, coming in for school and sports physicals, as well as for the inevitable minor injuries and illnesses of the summer.

As children excitedly recount their summer activities and anticipate the upcoming school year with a mixture of hope and dread, another emotion permeates the pediatrician's office: courage.

Aristotle called courage the first of human qualities because it is "the quality which guarantees the others." Being a kid requires a modicum of courage every fall, for he or she is beginning something new. Some transitions are small—a new teacher—while others are dramatic—starting preschool, high school or a new job. From the child's view, the comforts of summer are past and every new beginning is fraught with at least some trepidation. Parents may treasure the first day of school with commemorative photos, but those photos often capture the uncertainty of young children or the annoyance of older ones.

As school begins, parents should summon courage as well. They place trust in teachers, classmates and fellow parents who will gradually become the child's community as the child becomes more independent. Uncertainties about whether the educational or social environment will be a good fit are accompanied by natural concerns about physical safety. Families do their best to optimize the situation for their children before sending them out like Alfred Tennyson's Light Brigade.

In the face of a new season of COVID-19, what can pediatricians, with their knowledge and experience with viral illnesses, vaccination, child development and mental health, do to support parents and children in helping them develop the requisite courage?

This fall, the stakes for children are high, especially because we have shortchanged their educational and social development in the last two years. School is important. Learning loss during the pandemic is well documented and is worse for many children in economically vulnerable circumstances and for those children with special needs. Social interactions are essential: Children have to see the faces of their friends and teachers, and they must be able to communicate easily and participate in extracurricular activities. Positive, age-appropriate social interactions help protect children from depression, anxiety and mental health disorders, which in-

creased significantly during the previous two years.

Thankfully, COVID-19 remains a mild illness for most children. More than 75% have recovered from an infection one or more times. Although COVID-19 infections have become more frequent with the newer variants, multisystem inflammatory syndrome, a serious condition seen in a small number of children early in the pandemic, has become much less common. This may be due to a combination of the variants being less severe and the childhood immunity wall developed through vaccination and natural infection.

As is true every year, children will get sick with colds this winter, and this will include COVID-19. With the knowledge that serious COVID-19 is becoming less widespread, especially in children, there are several actions that parents, teachers and administrators can take to optimize this school year for children by employing "the four As":

- Accept the reality that viral illnesses are not only inevitable but necessary for building healthy immune systems in children.

- Avoid, as much as possible, disruptions to children's schedules as we live through viral outbreaks this year. The immunity wall to COVID-19 is stronger now than at any time in the past, and we are better prepared for the virus than we were in 2020 or 2021. Barring any new developments, this should obviate the need for contact tracing, quarantines and lockdowns.

- Allow children to experience the full range of social interactions, especially smiles, hugs, group activities, sports and field trips.

- Assure children that the pandemic situation is improving and that optimism is warranted about the upcoming school year.

Children naturally spread germs when they are sick, but the adults around them are generally well protected through their own immune activation from frequent viral exposure. Recent literature suggests that adults who spend more time with young children tend to experience less severe COVID-19 illness compared with those who are not regularly exposed to children. When competing needs or risks exist, we should prioritize the needs of children if possible.

Nelson Mandela once said, "Courage is not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear." The next several months will be our crucible. COVID-19 outbreaks may occur even as we reconsider our responses to the improving circumstances.

As adults who love children, let's commit to grasping the nettle. We must screw up our courage so they can flourish in the ways they deserve.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Getting the CNMI ready for Japanese tourists

By MARK FARMER

SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

First up: Thanks to the crews, business owners, workers, and volunteers who have been cleaning up Garapan in preparation for the coming increase in Japanese visitors. Before settling on Saipan last year, I lived over a decade in Japan and have been visiting the country since 1985—traveling and exploring the country from the northern shores of Hokkaido down to Iwo To (Iwo Jima). Japanese friends often tease me that I know Japan better than them and, for a foreigner, I have a fairly good understanding of the land and the Japanese people. I consider Japan to be my second home.

Considering how important Japanese tourism could be for the economy of the CNMI and being mindful of the longstanding Japanese connections to the Marianas, do let me share a few personal insights about the Japanese, how they travel and what they look for in a vacation destination and a few observations I made last week while driving around the island.

■ Suicide Cliff and Banzai Cliff are seared into the Japanese collective consciousness and are sacred sites. In my mind, they are every bit as sacred as Chamorro and Carolinian traditional burial sites, modern cemeteries, and the CNMI Veteran's Cemetery. Both sites are despoiled with garbage and old concrete and railing debris. The generator driving the cell tower at Suicide Cliff is a distraction (and somewhat an insult) to the quiet, peaceful and somber nature of the site where so many died—why isn't it solar or wind-powered or the generator located further from the summit and a power line run to the transmitter? It's simply rude, lazy, and inconsiderate.

■ The US flag at the Japanese Peace Memorial is faded and frayed. The Old Man by the Sea trail sign is broken.

■ The multilingual informational placards around the island (at points of interest) are faded, and in some places, unreadable. There needs to be additional translations made into Japanese and South Korean as well. A good historical, cultural interest and hiking trail map handout of Saipan in English, Japanese, and South Korean is sorely needed.

■ The governor may crow about spending \$15 million bucks on tourism outreach in Japan (an effort, by the way, I support) but the CNMI fails to provide basic sanitary human needs at most historic sites and beaches. Not even portajohns. What do you expect people to do? There also needs to be sanitary containers provided for diapers and period products. Garbage containers in tourist sites and trail heads too (or else it's all going to wind up in the sea and on beaches).

■ The Japanese are exceedingly fond of animals and that includes strays. The kind of advertising Saipan doesn't need are social media posts of Japanese tourists being bitten by dogs left roaming about by irresponsible and ignorant owners. This is a public safety issue, folks, and the boonie dog/roaming dog problem needs to be solved.

■ The Japanese value cleanliness, politeness, safety and customer service, all areas where we can all make improvements (and, in the process, this will make a better community for us all).

■ Due to Saipan having been part of Japan for a few decades, the blood lost in battle, and from all the other ties both lands have with each other, many Japanese have historical and family links to Saipan and are interested in these events as the militarist/World War II-era history taught in Japan is, at best, cursory and anodyne. We should see the Japanese tourists as a sort of visiting family or, at the very least, close neighbors that we haven't seen in a while.

■ We overlook the true value of what the CNMI can offer

tourists from Japan (and we should emphasize that we would like to establish a real relationship with them and have them return over and over). That said, it's the environment, sea, and beaches that matter most to them, along with golfing, local food, and culture, having fun, relaxing, sunrises and sunsets and exploring nature and history. Where we really fail them is in the adventure tourism market segment (I mean, it's almost impossible to visit and explore the Northern Islands and I've been trying to do so for nearly a year—the local government and tourism officials have been of absolutely no help and I know there are many others who want to make the trips). We also come up short at emphasizing Saipan (the northern end) as a clear/dark sky viewing experience opportunity as most Japanese live in brightly-lit cities and never get to see the deep, dark sky that we take for granted. Considering that the Japanese economy is either the third or fourth largest in the world (depending on measuring metrics) and that young single women are a major driver of that economy, we totally overlook the Japanese phenomenon of “girls travel” where young women travel alone, in pairs or groups and spend lots of money. Let's be good guests and ensure that women can travel and stay here safely and without being harassed, abused, or assaulted. Let them know that we welcome them and that their safety matters to us. There's a lot of room for improvement in this regard, given just how epically bad Saipan's sleaze and safety reputation was in Japan in the '90s and 2000s.

We should also be good hosts and remind Japanese tourists that Japan immigration and customs may possibly conduct urine tests of some citizens returning to Japan as they are well aware of Saipan's excellent and locally legal cannabis.

Mark Farmer, who is retired from the U.S. Coast Guard, is a regular contributor of photographs to Saipan Tribune.

In US politics, moderates still run the show

Last week's enactment of the 2022 budget-reconciliation bill, also known as the Inflation Reduction Act, is being treated by many analysts as a major turning point in Joe Biden's presidency. As recently as last month, when it looked like Congress might not pass reconciliation legislation this year, conventional wisdom in Washington suggested that Biden was a failing president who should even reconsider seeking a second term. But once the IRA unexpectedly secured sufficient support, Biden enjoyed an immediate reputational rebound as a master of legislative achievement; a few hyperbolic responses even compared him to Great Society-era Lyndon Johnson.

This wasn't too surprising. Americans usually regard the president as the gravitational center around which the entire political universe revolves, responsible for almost everything — good and bad — that happens on his watch. But the events of the past few weeks demonstrate how much this view can distort the more complicated truth. What changed between July and August wasn't Biden's presidential acumen, but rather the behavior of a single key senator: Joe Manchin of West Virginia.

Despite the credit he received for its passage, Biden had little involvement in crafting the bill he happily signed into law last Tuesday. The policy areas addressed by the IRA reflected Manchin's preferences more than those of the president or any other

public official. It was Manchin who compelled Biden to settle for a bill much smaller in scope and cost than the White House originally favored, Manchin whose open skepticism earlier this summer had seemed to sink the prospects of reconciliation legislation passing at all, and Manchin (along with fellow moderate Kyrsten Sinema) who was responsible for many of the specific provisions included in the final product. He even forced a change in the bill's name, pointedly abandoning a previous title that had echoed Biden's “Build Back Better” campaign slogan in favor of a strategic rebranding.

There's nothing unusual about moderates like Manchin using their pivotal positions in Congress to exert substantial legislative influence. The ideological polarization of American politics over the past several decades has steadily reduced the number of moderate members in both parties. But our current era is also historically distinctive for its remarkable degree of electoral parity. As noted by the political scientist Frances Lee, Democrats and Republicans are now more evenly matched at the national level than at any time since the late 1800s.

The consistently narrow margins of party control in the contemporary Congress ensure that the shrinking number of moderates who can survive both primaries and general elections continue to hold the balance of power between blocs of ideological stalwarts — even during periods when the same party controls the presidency and both congressional chambers. The objection of just three Republican senators permanently blocked President Donald Trump's attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act during the last period of unified party rule in 2017-18. Manchin and Sinema have similarly used a credible threat of defection from the party line to shape the contents of both the IRA and last year's American Rescue Plan.

When combined with the separation of powers established by the Constitution and a cloture rule in the Senate that requires most bills — including, crucially, annual appropriations legislation — to pass with supermajority support, the enduring clout of moderates explains why widening polarization hasn't produced

By DAVID A. HOPKINS
Bloomberg Opinion

David A. Hopkins is an associate professor of political science at Boston College and the author of Red Fighting Blue: How Geography and Electoral Rules Polarize American Politics.



dramatic swings in policy when the majority shifts from one party to the other. The status quo still holds a systematic advantage over proposals for major change in either ideological direction; most successful congressional action remains incremental and bipartisan; and no session of Congress in the era of polarization has yet matched the transformative productivity of the New Deal, Great Society or Reagan Revolution.

Moderates have not been completely unaffected by polarization, however. Whereas in bygone decades they voted similarly regardless of party — or, like the southern Dixiecrats and northeastern Rockefeller Republicans of the mid-20th century, even overlapped each other on the ideological spectrum — today the most conservative Democrat in each chamber stands significantly to the left of the most liberal Republican.






Despite the frustration that Manchin and Sinema have provoked among progressive activists over the past two years, both the IRA and American Rescue Plan were more substantively ambitious — and much more responsive to top Democratic Party priorities such as health care and climate change — than any hypothetical product of negotiations with moderate Republican Senators Susan Collins and Lisa Murkowski would've been. So while the dwindling ranks of centrist officeholders continue to play a crucial policy-making role, the question of which party's moderates will be empowered to supply the deciding votes has never been more meaningful.

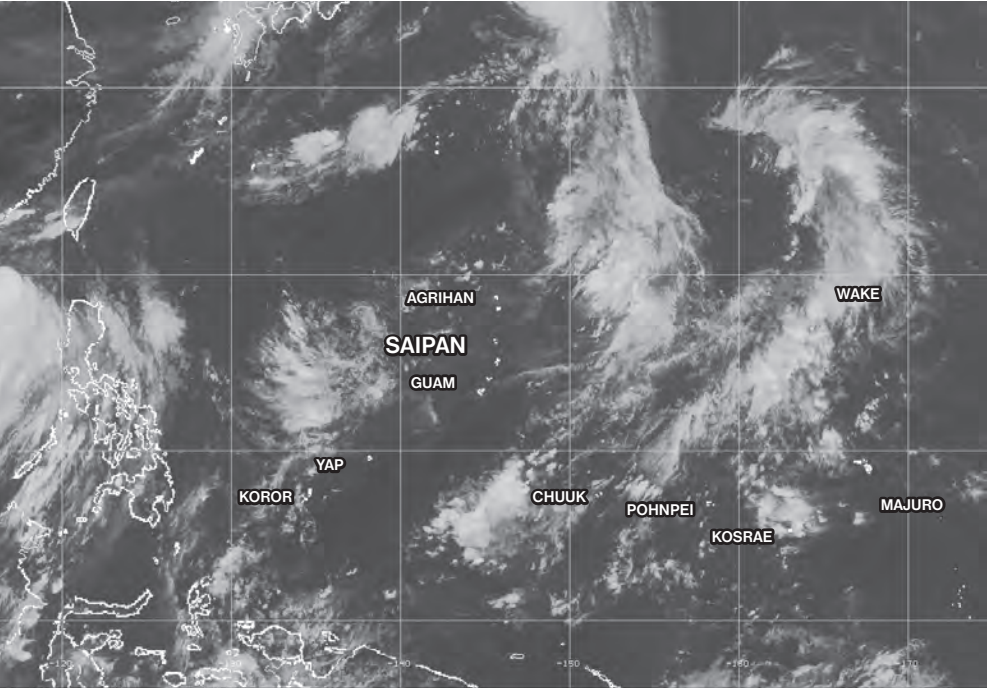
NATIONAL

From Page 8

Starting in the fall, system administrators say they'll begin requiring a supervisor to concur before a crisis counselor can notify the police. That should help, but social media sites are filling up now with warnings to stay away, which suggest that further delays could cause a system established with the best of intentions to fail for lack of public acceptance.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
									
Isolated showers. Mostly cloudy		Isolated showers. Mostly sunny		A 30 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny		Mostly sunny		Partly sunny	
87°	77°	87°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 8:50 AM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows only isolated showers moving through the Marianas Waters. Satellite shows increased showers well to the east, about 600 miles away. The buoys reveal combined seas of 3 feet composed of a 2 foot east swell and a 2 foot west-southwest swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▲ ▼ °F		
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	86° / 77°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	84° / 76°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Scattered Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	84° / 79°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:03 AM	6:34 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:33 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:33 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	4:00 AM	5:20 PM	-
Friday	4:53 AM	6:02 PM	-
Saturday	5:44 AM	6:42 PM	-
Sunday	6:34 AM	7:19 PM	-
Monday	7:24 AM	7:55 PM	-

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AROUND THE GLOBE ▲ ▼ °F		
Auckland	Rain/Wind	61° / 56°
Beijing	Sunny	89° / 63°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	86° / 74°
London	Light Rain	72° / 56°
Los Angeles	Sunny	87° / 68°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 78°
Melbourne	Showers	57° / 48°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	88° / 82°
New York	Mostly Sunny	90° / 72°
Osaka	Rain	91° / 79°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	89° / 65°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	82° / 74°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	91° / 69°
Salem	Showers	79° / 69°
San Francisco	Cloudy	67° / 57°
Seoul	Showers	79° / 66°
Tokyo	Cloudy	83° / 77°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	89° / 71°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
12:45 AM	Low Tide	1.26
5:30 AM	High Tide	1.77
12:49 PM	Low Tide	0.05
7:53 PM	High Tide	1.84

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 1, 2022							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
UA156	6:30PM	7:15PM	6	UA112	4:40PM	5:30PM	6
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	6:00AM	8:00AM	Daily	PR110	10:00PM	4:00AM+1	Daily
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	5 via Palau
				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1,2,3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Palau, Guam
				UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW9308	3:30PM	7:20PM	Daily	7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6	7C3406	8:50AM	2:50PM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6	TW9307	9:15AM	2:30PM	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:00PM	6:20PM	3, 7	7C3452	9:00AM	2:00PM	3, 7
BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7	BX622	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>							

MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS					
INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022					
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
7:00 A.M.	7:15 A.M.	(Except Sundays)	7:35 A.M.	7:50 A.M.	(Except Sundays)
9:50 A.M.	10:05 A.M.		10:25 A.M.	10:40 A.M.	
4:00 P.M.	4:15 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)	4:35 P.M.	4:50 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)
SAIPAN TO ROTA			ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
8:10 A.M.	8:40 A.M.		9:00 A.M.	9:30 A.M.	
1:45 P.M.	2:15 P.M.		2:35 P.M.	3:05 P.M.	
SAIPAN TO GUAM			GUAM TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
11:10 A.M.	12:00 P.M.		12:30 P.M.	1:20 P.M.	
5:15 P.M.	6:05 P.M.		6:40 P.M.	7:30 P.M.	

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
3103	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

Business

Whistleblower accuses Twitter of cybersecurity negligence

By MATT O'BRIEN, ALAN SUD-
ERMAN and FRANK BAJAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Twitter's former head of security alleged that the company misled regulators about its poor cybersecurity defenses and its negligence in attempting to root out fake accounts that spread disinformation, according to a whistleblower complaint filed with U.S. officials.

The revelation could create serious legal and financial problems for the social media platform, which is currently attempting to force Tesla CEO Elon Musk to consummate his \$44 billion offer to buy the company. Several members of Congress on Tuesday called on regulators to investigate the claims.

Peiter Zatkó, who served as Twitter's security chief until he was fired early this year, filed the complaints last month with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice. The legal nonprofit Whistleblower Aid, which is working with Zatkó, confirmed the authenticity of a redacted copy of the complaint posted online by the Washington Post.

"This was a last resort



for him," said John Tye, the group's co-founder and chief disclosure officer, in an interview Tuesday. He said Zatkó exhausted all attempts to get his concerns resolved inside the company before his firing in January.

Among Zatkó's most serious accusations is that Twitter violated the terms of a 2011 FTC settlement by falsely claiming that it had put stronger measures in place to protect the security and privacy of its users. Zatkó also accuses the company of deceptions involving its handling of "spam" or fake accounts, an allegation that is at the core of Musk's attempt to back out of the Twitter takeover.

Shares of Twitter Inc. closed

down more than 7% Tuesday.

Better known by his hacker handle "Mudge," Zatkó is a highly respected cybersecurity expert who first gained prominence in the 1990s and later worked in senior positions at the Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Agency and Google.

He joined Twitter at the urging of then-CEO Jack Dorsey in late 2020, the same year the company suffered an embarrassing security breach involving hackers who broke into

the Twitter accounts of world leaders, celebrities and tech moguls, including Musk, in an attempt to scam their followers out of bitcoin.

Twitter said in a prepared statement Tuesday that Zatkó was fired for "ineffective leadership and poor performance" and said the "allegations and opportunistic timing appear designed to capture attention and inflict harm on Twitter, its customers and its shareholders." The company called his

AP
The Twitter application is seen on a digital device, Monday, April 25, 2022, in San Diego.

complaint "a false narrative" that is "riddled with inconsistencies and inaccuracies and lacks important context."

Zatkó's attorneys, Debra Katz and Alexis Ronickher, said Twitter's claim about his poor performance is false and that he repeatedly raised concerns about "grossly inadequate information security systems" with top executives and Twitter's board of directors. The lawyers said that in late 2021, after the board was given "whitewashed" information about those security problems, Zatkó escalated his concerns, "clashed" with CEO Parag Agrawal and board member Omid Kordestani and was fired two weeks later.

The 84-page complaint describes a broken corporate culture at Twitter that lacked effective leadership and where Zatkó said top executives practiced "deliberate ignorance" of pressing problems. His description of Dorsey's leadership style is particularly scathing; he described the Twitter founder as "extremely disengaged" during the last months of his tenure as CEO to the point where he would not even speak during meetings on complex issues facing the company.

Student loan help for millions coming from Biden after delay

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Joe Biden on Wednesday is set to announce his long-delayed move to forgive up to \$10,000 in federal student loans for many Americans and extend a pause on payments to January, according to three people familiar with the plan.

Biden has faced pressure from liberals to provide broader relief to hard-hit borrowers, and from moderates and Republicans questioning the fairness of any widespread forgiveness. The delay in Biden's decision has only heightened the anticipation for what his own aides acknowledge represents a political no-win situation. The people spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss Biden's intended announcement ahead of time.

The precise details of Biden's plan, which will include an income cap limiting the forgiveness to only those earning less than \$125,000 a year, were being kept to an unusually small circle within the Biden administration and were still not finalized on the

eve of the announcement.

Down-to-the-wire decision-making has been a hallmark of the Biden White House, but the particular delay on student loans reflects the vexing challenge confronting him in fulfilling a key campaign promise.

The plan would likely eliminate student debt entirely for millions of Americans and wipe away at least half for millions more.

The nation's federal student debt now tops \$1.6 trillion after ballooning for years. More than 43 million Americans have federal student debt, with almost a third owing less than \$10,000 and more than half owing less than \$20,000, according to the latest federal data.

The continuation of the pandemic-era payment freeze comes just days before millions of Americans were set to find out when their next student loan bills will be due. This is the closest the administration has come to hitting the end of the payment freeze extension, with the current pause set to end Aug. 31.

Amazon keeps growing, and so does its cache of data on you

By HALELUYA HADERO
AP BUSINESS WRITER

From what you buy online, to how you remember tasks, to when you monitor your doorstep, Amazon is seemingly everywhere.

And it appears the company doesn't want to halt its reach anytime soon. In recent weeks, Amazon has said it will spend billions of dollars in two gigantic acquisitions that, if approved, will broaden its ever growing presence in the lives of consumers.

This time, the company is targeting two areas: health care, through its \$3.9 billion buyout of the primary care company One Medical, and the "smart home," where it plans to expand its already mighty presence through a \$1.7 billion merger with iRobot, the maker of the popular robotic Roomba vacuum.

Perhaps unsurprisingly for a company known for its vast collection of consumer information, both mergers have heightened enduring privacy

concerns about how Amazon gathers data and what it does with it. The latest line of Roombas, for example, employ sensors that map and remember a home's floor plan.

"It's acquiring this vast set of data that Roomba collects about people's homes," said Ron Knox, an Amazon critic who works for the anti-monopoly group Institute for Local Self-Reliance. "Its obvious intent, through all the other products that it sells to consumers, is to be in your home. (And) along with the privacy issues come the antitrust issues, because it's buying market share."

Amazon's reach goes well beyond that. Some estimates show the retail giant controls roughly 38% of the U.S. e-commerce market, allowing it to gather granular data about the shopping preferences of millions of Americans and more worldwide. Meanwhile, its Echo devices, which house the voice assistant Alexa, have dominated the U.S. smart speaker market, accounting for

roughly 70% of sales, according to estimates by Consumer Intelligence Research Partners.

Ring, which Amazon purchased in 2018 for \$1 billion, monitors doorsteps and helps police track down crime — even when users might not be aware. And at select Amazon stores and Whole Foods, the company is testing a palm-scanning technology that allows customers to pay for items by storing biometric data in the cloud, sparking concerns about risks of a data breach, which Amazon has attempted to assuage.

"We treat your palm signature just like other highly sensitive personal data and keep it safe using best-in-class technical and physical security controls," the company said on a website that provides information about the technology.

Even consumers who actively avoid Amazon are still likely to have little say about how their employers power their computer networks, which Amazon — along with Google — has long dominated

through its cloud-computing service AWS.

"It's hard to think of another organization that has as many touch points as Amazon does to an individual," said Ian Greenblatt, who heads up tech research at the consumer research and data analytics firm J.D. Power. "It's almost overwhelming, and it's hard to put a finger on it."

And Amazon — like any company — aims to grow. In the past few years, the company has purchased the Wi-Fi startup Eero and partnered with the construction company Lennar to offer tech-powered houses. With iRobot, it would gain one more building block for the ultimate smart home — and, of course, more data.

Customers can opt out of having iRobot devices store a layout of their homes, according to the vacuum maker. But data privacy advocates worry the merger is another way Amazon could suck up information to integrate into its other devices or use to target consumers with ads.

Asia

Tropical storm injures 3, displaces thousands in PH



In this photo provided by the Philippine Coast Guard, rescuers assist residents as they move them to safer grounds as floodings caused by Tropical Storm Ma-on rose at Alaminos, Pangasinan, northern Philippines on Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2022. AP

MANILA, Philippines

(AP)—A tropical storm blew out of the northern Philippines on Wednesday, leaving at least three people injured and thousands displaced and prompting authorities to shut down schools and government offices in the capital and several provinces prone to flooding and landslides.

Tropical Storm Ma-on weakened slightly after barreling across mountainous northern provinces then exited overnight with sustained winds of 95 kilometers (59 miles) per hour and gusts of up to 115 kph (71 mph) after making landfall in Maonacon town in Isabela province Tuesday morning, forecasters said.

The storm may intensify at sea as it heads toward southern China, they said.

Although the storm's onslaught was felt mainly in the northern tip of the main Luzon region, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. suspended classes in all public schools and government work from Tuesday to Wednesday in the densely populated Manila metropolis and several outlying provinces as a precaution amid pockets of flooding and strong wind.

"The heavy rains pose possible risks to the general public," press secretary Trixie Cruz-Angeles said Tuesday.

The school closures came after millions of primary and secondary students trooped back to schools across the Philippines on Monday for their first face-to-face classes after two years of coronavirus lockdowns.

The storm was among perennial problems education

officials grappled with, along with classroom shortages, alarming illiteracy rate among children and lingering coronavirus threats after deciding to reopen schools nationwide.

Three villagers were injured and taken to hospitals after being hit by falling trees in Cagayan province, safety officer Rueli Rapsing said, adding more than 7,000 people were evacuated from villages that were prone to flash floods, landslides and tidal surges in Cagayan alone.

Some of the provinces which felt the brunt of the storm were still recovering from the devastation caused by a powerful earthquake last month, sparking concerns quake-loosened mountainsides would be more susceptible to landslides.

Taiwan's Tsai says self-defense resolve cannot be shaken

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan's president invoked an armed conflict in 1958 as an example of the island's resolve to defend itself as she met Tuesday with more foreign visitors amid the highest tensions with China in decades.

U.S. policy researchers and Japanese lawmakers were the latest visiting delegations, just weeks after China reacted to a visit by U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi with large-scale military exercises that included firing missiles over the island and sending ships across the midline of the Taiwan Strait.

China claims self-ruled Taiwan as its own territory, to be taken by force if necessary, and sees high-level foreign visits to the island as interference in its affairs and

de facto recognition of Taiwanese sovereignty.

Speaking to the American policy researchers from Stanford University's Hoover Institution think tank, President Tsai Ing-wen referred to the Second Taiwan Strait Crisis in 1958, a conflict in which the Chinese military conducted prolonged shelling of Taiwan's outlying Kinmen and Matsu islands.

Tsai said the military and civilians worked together then to safeguard Taiwan.

"That battle to protect our homeland showed the world that no threat of any kind could shake the Taiwanese people's resolve to defend their nation, not in the past, not now and not in the future," she said. "We, too, will show the world that the people of Taiwan have

both the resolve and the confidence to safeguard peace, security, freedom and prosperity for ourselves."

Tsai later said to the Japanese lawmakers that aggression against Taiwan would have a major impact on the entire Indo-Pacific region.

Leading the Japanese delegation was Keiji Furuya, an ultra-conservative who heads a Japan-Taiwan parliamentarians group.

Furuya criticized China's recent military exercises in a speech ahead of his meeting with Tsai.

"China's actions are unacceptable toward the Japanese and Taiwanese people who have shared values in democracy freedoms, rule of law and human rights. We oppose this type of threat from China," he said.

World

Airstrikes target militia-controlled areas in Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—The U.S. military said early Wednesday it carried out airstrikes in eastern Syria that targeted areas used by militias backed by Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard.

There was no immediate acknowledgment by Syria's state-run media of the strikes hitting Deir Ez-Zor. Iran as well did not acknowledge the attack.

Opposition war monitor the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and activist collective Deir Ezzor 24 said the airstrikes targeted the Ayash Camp run by the Fatimiyoun group made up of Shiite fighters from Afghanistan. The war monitor

reported that at least six Syrian and foreign militants were killed in the airstrikes.

The U.S. military's Central Command said the strikes "took proportionate, deliberate action intended to limit the risk of escalation and minimize the risk of casualties." It did not identify the targets, nor offer any casualty figures from the strikes, which the military said came at the orders of President Joe Biden.

"Today's strikes were necessary to protect and defend U.S. personnel," Central Command spokesman Col. Joe Buccino said in a statement.

The colonel added the attack was in response to an Aug. 15

attack targeting U.S. forces. That attack saw drones allegedly launched by Iranian-backed militias target the al-Tanf Garrison used by American forces. U.S. Central Command described the assault as causing "zero casualties and no damage" at the time.

Deir Ez-Zor is a strategic province that borders Iraq and contains oil fields. Iran-backed militia groups and Syrian forces control the area and have often been the target of Israeli war planes in previous strikes.

U.S. forces entered Syria in 2015, backing allied forces in their fight against the Islamic State group.

Russians pay tribute to nationalist killed by car bombing

MOSCOW (AP)—Hundreds of people lined up Tuesday to pay tribute to the daughter of a leading right-wing Russian political thinker killed in a car bombing that Moscow blamed on Ukrainian intelligence.

Speaking during a farewell ceremony at a Moscow broadcast production center, Alexander Dugin said with his voice breaking that his 29-year-old daughter, a commentator with a nationalist Russian television channel, "died for the people, died for Russia."

"The huge price we have to pay can only be justified by the highest achievement, our victory," he said, standing next to his daughter's casket, her black-and-white portrait placed behind it. "She lived for the sake of victory, and she died for the sake of victory. Our Russian victory, our truth, our Orthodox faith, our state."

Darya Dugina was killed when a remotely-controlled explosive device planted in her SUV blew up on Saturday night as she was driving on the outskirts of Moscow, ripping the vehicle apart and killing her on the spot, authorities said.

Her father, a philosopher, writer and political theorist who ardently supports Russian President Vladimir Putin's decision to send troops into Ukraine, was widely believed to be the intended target. Russian media quoted witnesses as saying that the SUV belonged to Dugin and that he had decided at the last minute to travel in another vehicle.

During the memorial service at the Ostankino television center that topped newscasts on state television, the 60-year-old Dugin shared what he said were his daughter's last words to him, spoken at a nationalist festival they both attended just before her death: "Father, I feel like a warrior, I feel like a hero. I want to be one. I don't want any different fate. I want to be with my people, with my country."

Speaking at a separate event Tuesday, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov denounced Dugina's killing as a "barbaric crime for which there is no forgiveness."

The car bombing, unusual for Moscow since the gang wars of the turbulent 1990s, triggered calls from Russian nationalists to respond by ramping up strikes on Ukraine. Ukraine has denied any involvement in the bombing.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy reaffirmed the denial on Tuesday, telling a news conference in Kyiv about Dugina's killing: "That is not our responsibility. She is not a citizen of our country. We are not interested in her."

Leonid Slutsky, the head of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the lower house of Russia's parliament, attended Tuesday's farewell ceremony for Dugina. Slutsky, who took part in several rounds of talks with Ukrainian negotiators in March, indicated the killing would have repercussions for the conflict in Ukraine.

"We see that Kyiv isn't inclined to have talks, and my own position as a member of

the negotiation team is that it would be hard to engage in talks after that horrible tragedy," he said.

Putin on Monday sent a letter of condolences to Dugin and his wife, denouncing the "cruel and treacherous" killing and saying that Dugina "honestly served people and the Fatherland, proving what it means to be a patriot of Russia with her deeds." He posthumously awarded Dugina the Order of Courage, one of Russia's highest medals.

Russia's Federal Security Service, or FSB, the main successor to the KGB, said Dugina's killing was "prepared and perpetrated by the Ukrainian special services."

The FSB said that a Ukrainian citizen, Natalya Vovk, carried out the killing after arriving in Russia in July with her 12-year-old daughter and renting an apartment in the building where Dugina lived in order to shadow her. It said that Vovk and her daughter were at the nationalist festival that Dugin and his daughter attended.

The agency said that Vovk drove to Estonia after the killing, using a different license plate for her vehicle. On Monday, the FSB released videos from surveillance cameras purportedly showing her entering and leaving Russia, and also a close-up of her allegedly in front of the entrance to a Moscow apartment building where Dugina lived and where Vovk rented an apartment.

The FSB also posted pictures of her vehicle with different license plates.

Environment

The kids are all fight: How millennials, Gen Z are driving change on climate

By KYLE BAGENSTOSE
USA TODAY

Benji Backer is a young person with an old story.

Coming of age in 2017, he took a look at the world around him and felt discontent. Its politics didn't match his; elders didn't share some of his core values and priorities. So he struck out on his own to forge a new path.

Here's the twist. Backer, 24, is a stalwart conservative and Republican activist. His chief frustration? His party isn't doing enough to address climate change.

The disconnect led him to launch the American Conservation Coalition, an environmental nonprofit headquartered in his home state of Wisconsin with a mission to promote climate action within conservative circles. Five years later, Backer says he has come to realize that differences of opinion on climate change often feel more generational than political.

"We can talk climate all day to the under-40 crowd, whereas if we're talking to an older generation, there are so many walls and assumptions," Backer said. "It's not that I don't value them; older generations have a role to play. It's the unwillingness to change that I think is the biggest problem."

Backer's experiences highlight something showing up in polling data, academic research and corporate boardrooms across the country: The kids just aren't going to take it anymore.

Professional? Political? It's all the same

Millennials and Gen Z—roughly anyone under 40—are far more likely than older generations to carry their political and ethical views with them wherever they go. Particularly on climate, they are more willing to take action on those beliefs than baby boomers or Gen Xers when deciding where to work, what projects to take on, what to buy and where to invest their money.

Anecdotes are everywhere. There is no more visible youth climate activist than Greta Thunberg, the Swedish 19-year-old who for years has chastised world leaders on their climate inaction. In July, a half dozen progressive congressional staffers were arrested after staging a sit-in at Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer's office, imploring him to keep negotiating with Sen. Joe Manchin on climate legislation.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Young people have been on the front lines of activist movements, including on the issue of climate change.

While such demonstrations may be easy to dismiss as youthful exuberance, serious economic and social forces gathering in the background are not. Kathy Alsegaf, Deloitte Global Chief Sustainability Officer, says millennials and Gen Zers are having a transformative effect on the corporate world.

Last year, Deloitte surveyed more than 23,000 people in those two generations across 46 countries. Climate change was the second-ranked priority for both, just behind cost of living and ahead of unemployment.

Survey respondents said they expected employers to take action on the issue, along with other priorities like work-life balance and professional development opportunities. And when the employers don't, they often walk. About 2 in 5 said they had rejected a job or assignment based on personal ethics, a number that grew to nearly half among those holding senior positions.

Companies are in turn feeling the heat, especially in a tight labor market. Nearly 2 in 3 corporate executives told Deloitte in a separate survey that they feel pressured by employees to deliver meaningful action on climate change, only slightly less than the pressure they feel coming from regulators

and investors. Alsegaf said that squares with her personal experiences and noted Deloitte itself has invested \$1 billion in growing its sustainability and climate consulting services.

"Younger generations are deeply concerned about the state of the world. They're passionate about aligning their values and their ethics with their employer," Alsegaf said. "That came out very loud and clear."

Generational pressure also is coming from outside the building. Michal Barzuza, a professor at the University of Virginia School of Law who has studied the growing influence of younger generations on the corporate sector, notes that millennials are expected to be the recipients of about \$24 trillion in generational wealth transfers. Instead of simply investing to maximize returns, many want to see corporations act as good global stewards before plopping down their dollars.

With younger generations also being sophisticated online sleuths, that means companies can no longer easily paper over questionable environmental practices with donations to philanthropic endeavors.

"They're internet animals—they know how to look for information," Barzuza said. "If corporations pretend, and then (younger generations) find out, then you lose trust."

Climate connects young adults

Growing up in the small city of Hamilton, Ohio, during the Great Recession was a formative experience for Ashton Potter. As she door-knocked for the first Obama campaign, Potter recalled stories of maxed-out credit cards and friends' parents who couldn't pay the mortgage.

She grew further political at Kent State University, where a psychic mark formed after discussions with alumni who were there for the 1970 massacre that left four Vietnam War protesters dead.

But after graduating in 2013, Potter took a job in the fashion industry in New York City and put her activism in a box for after-work hours. Then the COVID-19 pandemic came crashing in. Already soured on long work hours and a lack of sustainable focus within the industry, she felt "old, conservative men" at the executive level forced workers back to the office too soon.

It was the final straw. Potter left her job for a four-month stint on the presidential campaign of Joe Biden, then found her way to Business Forward, a nonprofit that empowers small businesses across the country to work on issues like climate change, immigration, and the future of work.

"I had been debating quitting my job for a good while," Pot-

ter said, "But that finally pushed me to, 'It's OK to do this.'"

National polling shows Potter's priorities are common among her peers. While surveys of all Americans almost always show the economy or jobs within the first few priorities, polling of Gen Z and Millennials show climate change also sticking near the top of the list, along with other priorities like racial justice.

In surveys around the 2020 election, CIRCLE, a civic research shop at Tufts University, found that 13% of people ages 18 to 29 marked climate change as their top concern, the most of any issue. Nearly 1 in 3 list climate change among their top three issues—and 74% said they wanted Biden to prioritize a transition to renewable energy, trailing only COVID-19 and "combating violence against people of color."

Alec Tyson, associate director of research at the Pew Research Center, says national polling regularly shows climate change among the "top tier" of issues for Gen Z and millennials. A lot of that can be explained by younger voters skewing toward the Democratic Party: Democrats typically say they are more concerned about climate change, and with more young people identifying as Democrats, the issue naturally rises

toward the top of the list.

But something else is going on, Tyson says. Within the Democratic Party, younger voters are more likely than baby boomers and Generation X to say they've taken action on climate change.

Cristina Tzintzún Ramirez, president of NextGen America, a nonprofit youth voter organization, said in a statement after Biden's signing of the climate legislation Tuesday that millennial and Gen Z support for climate-focused candidates and causes made them the lead force behind the bill.

"Democrats in Congress came together to advance this bold piece of legislation," Tzintzún Ramirez said. "They heard young organizers and felt the pressure of our movement—and today the president is delivering."

Also striking are statistics among young conservatives. Less than half of Gen Z Republicans support more mining for coal, more hydraulic fracturing or more offshore drilling, compared with about 3 in 4 baby boomers in their party who support the activities. Those differences represent the largest generational divide on climate issues across any demographic, Tyson said.

In another Pew survey, 67% of Republicans aged 29 and under said they supported the country reaching "net zero" carbon emissions by 2050, in line with an international goal often supported by Democrats.

"Young Republicans are cool on things like fossil fuels," Tyson said, adding that across parties, Gen Z and millennials are also "much more likely to express anxiety about the future."

Backer says he understands that firsthand. He believes a sense of urgency on climate change is a primary bridge connecting young voters on both sides of the political aisle. He doesn't shy away from calling former President Donald Trump a climate change "denier" and says he understands that older generations in general do not want to see the world change as rapidly as younger Americans do.

As his own generation advances in political and economic clout, he hopes common ground on climate will depoliticize the issue, particularly if Republicans win back power in Congress or the presidency in the coming years.

"I think you will see Republican action on climate," Backer said. "The tide has changed on this, even if the narrative hasn't yet."

Life & Style

‘House of the Dragon’ is HBO’s top series premiere ever

NEW YORK (AP)—Nearly 10 million people saw the premiere of “House of the Dragon” on Sunday night, making the “Game of Thrones” spinoff HBO’s most-watched series premiere in the network’s history.

HBO aired the episode four times on premiere night and it was also streamed on HBO Max. The viewership number is only going to increase in the coming weeks.

For instance, the “Game of Thrones” series finale in May 2019 was seen on its first night by 19.8 million, more than any other series episode on HBO, the Nielsen company said. HBO estimates that some 46 million people in total have seen it, when delayed viewing is taken into account.

Anticipation for “House of the Dragon” was evident in how many people were streaming old “Game of Thrones” episodes on HBO Max, which the network fed by offering crisper picture quality. The weekly av-



This image released by HBO Max shows Matt Smith as Prince Daemon Targaryen in a scene from “House of the Dragon,” a prequel to “Game of Thrones.”

erage of streams in August is nearly 90% above June, the network said.

“The ‘Game of Thrones’ prequel recaptured the fire of

HBO’s original masterpiece in a big way,” said Ashwin Navin, co-founder and CEO of the research firm Samba TV. That company estimated that the

HBO series more than doubled the first-day viewership for Netflix’s new season of “Stranger Things” this summer.

The challenge — and opportunity — for HBO lies in trying to expand “House of the Dragon” beyond the built-in fan base, Navin said.

CBS was the most popular broadcast network in prime time last week, averaging 2.8 million viewers. NBC had 2.7 million, ABC had 2.4 million, Fox had 1.9 million, Ion Television had 1.04 million, Univision had 1.01 million and Telemundo had 810,000.

Fox News Channel led the cable networks with a prime-time average of 2.31 million. MSNBC had 1.32 million, ESPN had 896,000, Hallmark had 870,000 and HGTV had 866,000.

ABC’s “World News Tonight” won the evening news ratings race, averaging 7.2 million viewers last week. NBC’s “Nightly News” had 6.1 million and the “CBS Evening News” had 4.2 million.

For the week of Aug. 15-22, the 20 most popular prime-time programs, their networks and viewerships:	
1. “America’s Got Talent” (Tuesday), NBC, 6.44 million.	12. “Tucker Carlson Tonight” (Monday), Fox News, 3.432 million.
2. “America’s Got Talent” (Wednesday), NBC, 5.64 million.	13. “Press Your Luck,” ABC, 3.425 million.
3. “60 Minutes,” CBS, 5.44 million.	14. “Big Brother” (Thursday), CBS, 3.42 million.
4. “Celebrity Family Feud,” ABC, 4.54 million.	15. “Tucker Carlson Tonight” (Wednesday), Fox News, 3.38 million.
5. “Password” (Wednesday), NBC, 4.36 million.	16. “The Bachelorette,” ABC, 3.294 million.
6. “The \$100,000 Pyramid,” ABC, 4.1 million.	17. “Tucker Carlson Tonight” (Tuesday), Fox News, 3.294 million.
7. “Big Brother” (Wednesday), CBS, 4.06 million.	18. “Young Sheldon,” CBS, 3.258 million.
8. “America’s Funniest Home Videos,” ABC, 3.98 million.	19. “Celebrity Wheel of Fortune,” ABC, 3.258 million.
9. “Password” (Tuesday), NBC, 3.97 million.	20. “FBI International,” CBS, 3.245 million.
10. “Big Brother” (Sunday), CBS, 3.95 million.	
11. “FBI,” CBS, 3.57 million.	

Witness: Desperate R. Kelly offered \$1M for return of video

CHICAGO (AP)—A former merchandizing agent for R. Kelly testified Tuesday that the singer offered him \$1 million to find a VHS tape featuring Kelly as prosecutors sought to persuade jurors that Kelly was desperate to recover the missing recording, knowing it could land him in legal peril if it fell into the hands of law enforcement.

Based in part on that recording, which prosecutors say shows the R&B star sexually abusing a 14-year-old girl, Kelly faces charges that include production of child pornography. He is also accused of fixing his 2008 state child pornography trial by threatening witnesses and endeavoring

to conceal video evidence.

Charles Freeman testified Tuesday that Kelly reached out to him in 2001 to ask him to hunt down the recording. Freeman, a 52-year-old from Kansas City, also explained how he pressured Kelly and his associates for years to pay him the full \$1 million after Freeman found and returned the tape.

Freeman told jurors he didn’t know the contents of the video until after he retrieved it from a home in Atlanta in 2001 and then slipped it into a VHS player at a friend’s home later that day.

“I observed Robert Kelly with a young lady having sex,” he said.

Anne Heche laid to rest at historic Hollywood cemetery

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Actor Anne Heche has been laid to rest at a storied Los Angeles cemetery alongside many Hollywood luminaries, her family said Tuesday.

Heche was cremated and her ashes were placed in a mausoleum at Hollywood Forever Cemetery nearly two weeks after she was declared dead at a hospital from injuries suffered in a fiery car crash.

In a statement to The Associated Press, Heche’s son Homer Laffoon said he and her other son Atlas Tupper “are convinced our Mom

would love the site we have chosen for her; it’s beautiful, serene and she will be among her Hollywood peers.”

The cemetery has in recent years become a cultural hub for film screenings, musical performances and festivals.

Laffoon went to see the band My Morning Jacket there after his mother’s death, with tickets bought before she died. He loved the vibrancy of the location, and took it as a sign that her grave should be there.

“Hollywood Forever is a living place,” Laffoon’s statement said.



Anne Heche arrives at the premiere of “The Tender Bar” at the TCL Chinese Theatre, on Dec. 12, 2021, in Los Angeles.

A small private memorial will be held once Heche’s headstone is etched.

“She was our Mom, but the kindness and the outpouring of the past few days reminded us that she also belongs to her fans, to the entertainment community, and now, to the ages,” the statement said.

Founded in 1899 and located near the Paramount Pictures lot, the cemetery is home to the graves and tombs of actors including Judy Garland and Douglas Fairbanks, and of musicians including Chris Cornell and Johnny Ramone.

Friend shows pattern of flaking out when needed

DEAR ABBY: A childhood friend, “Brenda,” moved away 20 years ago. Even though we were living across the country from each other, we remained close.

About 10 years ago, I lost my 9-month-old nephew to cancer. It was extremely traumatic for our whole family. His death occurred around the time Brenda and her family were visiting her parents here in town, so I notified them about the wake and funeral arrangements. Abby, they never showed. I was heartbroken and didn’t talk to Brenda for a few months. After she apologized many times, I started to talk to her.

A few years later, Brenda’s mother passed away. I was there for her and her family from start to finish, and when she was sick, I would take her mom to doctor appointments. Last year my mother died after a brief illness, and I again let my friend know. Again, she was a no-show. Money was not a problem for plane tickets for other things, but too expensive for me to have the comfort of a supposed “best” friend.

Should I ignore this again or let the relationship fizzle out? I’m hurt and have expressed this to her. She says she’s sorry, but nothing changes.

DISAPPOINTED IN NEW YORK

the loss of your mother. It’s time you reevaluated your relationship with Brenda. You may be her best friend, but she is clearly not yours. A best friend is someone you can depend on. When the chips are down, Brenda has been absent. If you wish to keep her as a friend, do so, but with the understanding of her significant limitations.

DEAR ABBY: I am finalizing the guest list for my wedding and face a dilemma. A casual but long-term friend of ours is the ex-boyfriend of my maid of honor. The two are still friends and see each other occasionally, so there is no issue there. The issue is whether or not to invite his live-in girlfriend. I know typical wedding etiquette usually includes significant others, but in this case?

First off, we barely know her. Most of the time when our friend comes to our house, she doesn’t come along. When we visit his house, she’s gone or seems to avoid us. We’re having a small backyard wedding, and the ex-girlfriend and the new girlfriend have never met. Is it necessary to invite her? I want to be respectful, but it seems complicated for everyone involved, and I’d rather not have it detract from the day for my maid of honor.

BRIDE-TO-BE IN OREGON

DEAR BRIDE-TO-BE: Not knowing the ex-boyfriend’s

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



new girlfriend, I can’t offer insight into why she seems standoffish. It may be that she’s socially awkward and not comfortable with people she doesn’t know. To exclude the live-in girlfriend would be not only disrespectful to her, but also to her boyfriend. I don’t advise doing it because you could create long-lasting hurt feelings and ill will.

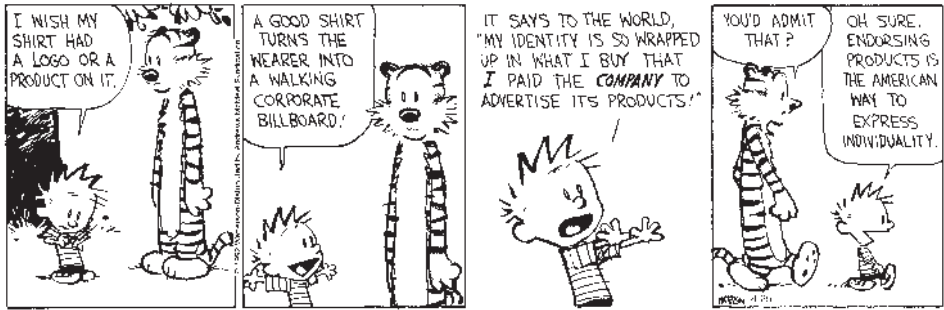
Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR DISAPPOINTED: Please accept my sympathy for

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



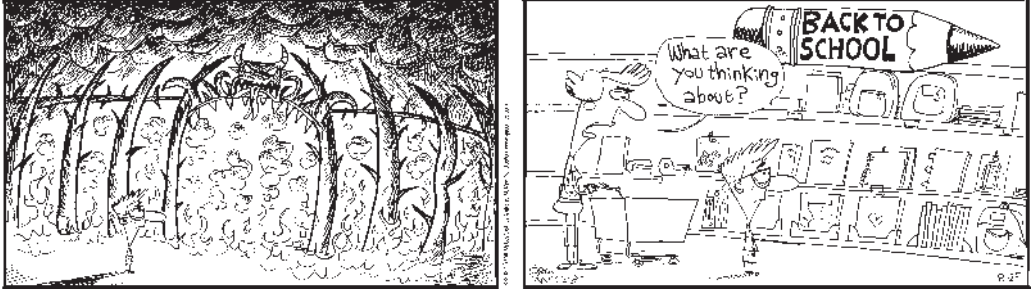
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Barn birds
- 5 Snooze
- 8 Hum-drum
- 12 Nerd's kin
- 13 Some-what (Suff.)
- 14 Green land
- 15 Hindu royal
- 16 "My word!"
- 17 Taxi alter-native
- 18 Allow
- 20 Peace Nobel
- 22 Poetic contrac-tion
- 23 Armed conflict
- 24 Melville captain
- 27 Shortly
- 32 — canto
- 33 Nonpro sports org.
- 34 DDE's opponent
- 35 Parts

DOWN

- 1 Shrek, for one
- 2 Gradually withdraw
- 3 Sultry
- 4 Winter vehicle
- 5 Resident of Lagos
- 6 Enzyme suffix
- 7 "That was close!"
- 8 Biondi in "It's a Wonder-ful Life"
- 9 Resident of Monrovia
- 10 War god
- 11 Wife of Zeus
- 19 French article
- 21 "Adorbs!"
- 24 Sit-up targets
- 25 Haw
- 26 Resident of Oran
- 28 D.C. base-baller
- 29 Resident of Vienna
- 30 Summer sign
- 31 Mental-ist's gift
- 36 House-hold
- 37 Yale grad
- 38 Spiritual-ist
- 41 Egyptian sun god
- 42 Sprint
- 43 Regard-ing
- 44 Chat
- 46 "Mary — Little Lamb"
- 47 Bailiwick
- 48 Campus blgwig
- 51 Island garland

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 8-25

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: China Anne McClain, 24; Blake Lively, 35; Kel Mitchell, 44; Tim Burton, 64.

Happy Birthday: Stop thinking about what you didn't do and think about what you can do now. Life is about purpose, and being good, efficient and helpful. Stop the criticism and empower yourself to make a positive difference instead of inciting the faults of others. Be positive and let your popularity grow. Your love of life will manifest into something that makes you proud. Your numbers are 2, 10, 23, 25, 34, 37, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look at the big picture and rethink your next move. You have plenty of opportunities, so don't limit what or how you initiate change. Spend time with someone you love who encourages you to chase your dreams, hopes and wishes. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may desire a physical change, but don't start before you are mentally and physically ready. An emotional matter will hold you back if you can't make up your mind. Go through every detail and put everything in place before pushing forward. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Branch out, listen to what others say and revamp your plans to suit trends. A positive change will improve the way you use your space. Put your brawn behind your brain and turn an idea into reality. 4 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take charge of money matters before you end up in debt or buy something you don't need or want. Too much of anything will be your demise. Discipline will help you overcome the barriers be-

tween you and a healthy lifestyle. ★★
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take your relationship with others seriously and strive for equality. Discuss decisions before moving forward. Explore the outcomes until you are sure you understand the consequences of your decisions. Commit to what you want, not what others want you to accept. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Speak, but don't shout. Look past what makes you annoyed and refuse to allow anger to consume you. Focus on what you can achieve, and put your physical attributes into reaching your destination of choice. Celebrate your accomplishments. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Preparation and organization will be the path to free will, living in the moment and happiness. Make plans with someone you love and discuss your intentions and long-term goals. Romance and good health are favored, and doing what's appropriate will pay off. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Address anything that leaves you perplexed. Gather information and determine what's applicable and what isn't before you make a move. Have the discipline to say no or to take a different path if it suits your lifestyle and long-term plans. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Consider a leadership position. Do what you do best, and don't make excuses. Take a physical stance and live up to your promises. Give your all in order to avoid criticism. A friendly demeanor will ward off negativity and interference. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Consider your objective, and eliminate waste before expanding. Get back to bare necessities, and you'll know exactly how to build your future. Be insightful, take your time and leave no room for error. Your success depends on precision and accuracy. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take charge and don't stop moving things around until you feel at home. How you see yourself and your relationships with others will determine what you can accomplish. Don't disregard what others can contribute. Work with people who share your sentiments. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your mind will be working overtime. Before you make a change, reach out to anyone your decisions will affect. Kindness and consideration will help you win the popular vote when life decisions are at the forefront. Reinforce your concern explicitly. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are energetic, responsive and persistent. You are curious and goal-oriented.

★: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ★★: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ★★★: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ★★★★★: Aim high; start new projects. ★★★★★: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		3				2				
				5		3				
8			7		4				1	
	7	6			4		8	9		
	2	9		7		1	3			
5			4		2				8	
			1		6					
		2				6				

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

4	7	9	6	5	2	3	1	8
3	2	6	1	4	8	7	5	9
5	1	8	3	7	9	6	4	2
6	4	7	9	2	3	5	8	1
2	8	1	4	6	5	9	3	7
9	3	5	8	1	7	2	6	4
7	5	4	2	3	1	8	9	6
1	9	3	7	8	6	4	2	5
8	6	2	5	9	4	1	7	3

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/25
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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

PRETZELS HAVE COME A LONG WAY Solution: 4 letters

A	C	C	R	U	S	T	Y	L	T	L	A	S	E	S
D	I	I	U	D	E	C	N	A	R	F	W	M	T	D
I	L	N	L	I	R	B	S	V	L	E	A	A	E	E
A	L	N	A	R	S	A	I	I	E	S	P	K	I	L
R	I	A	H	V	A	I	T	T	E	L	A	K	R	I
B	N	M	C	O	L	G	N	S	E	B	C	C	B	C
U	O	O	N	S	E	A	E	E	F	U	S	K	A	E
T	I	N	U	R	A	Y	S	E	F	U	M	F	N	T
T	S	G	M	W	S	S	O	N	L	U	R	S	A	U
E	A	A	A	O	K	O	F	L	N	S	E	H	L	S
R	N	R	N	C	D	L	O	O	P	E	E	A	O	P
Y	A	I	I	W	O	R	D	E	R	U	P	P	C	R
C	N	T	F	W	O	E	I	V	O	M	O	E	O	E
G	S	D	E	E	S	R	F	L	O	U	R	S	H	A
D	E	R	E	V	O	C	B	K	N	O	T	T	C	D

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Alsace, Baked, Bite, Braid, Brie, Brown, Butter, Caraway, Chocolate, Cinnamon, Covered, Crusty, Cuisine, Delicious, Festival, Flour, Food, France, Freeport, Garlic, Germany, Illinois, Knot, Loop, Movie, Munch, Museum, Mustard, Order, Pack, Pennsylvania, Roll, Salt, Seasoning, Seeds, Sesame, Shapes, Snack, Spread, Staple, Sticks, Sugar, Sunflower, Sweet
Yesterday's Answer: Basket
The NEW Treasury 49 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Durant, Nets plan to move forward together instead of trade



NEW YORK (AP)—Kevin Durant and the Brooklyn Nets are staying together.

A trade request that jolted the franchise and dominated NBA headlines has been removed. The Nets will return next season with their All-Star forward in uniform — and with their championship hopes intact.

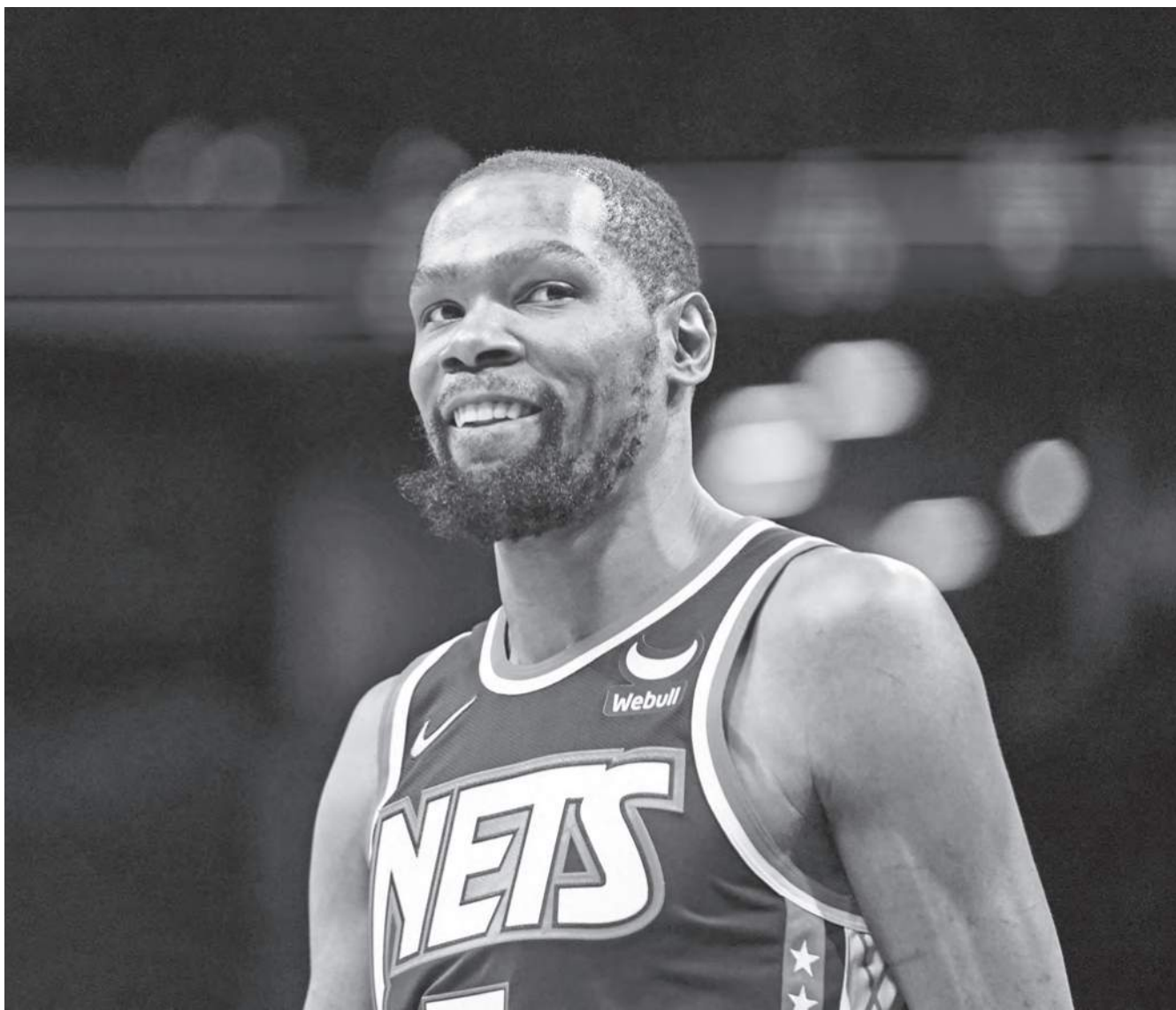
The Nets said Tuesday that the team's leadership met a day earlier with Durant and business partner Rich Kleiman in Los Angeles and "agreed to move forward with our partnership," general manager Sean Marks said in a statement.

Marks attended the meeting along with coach Steve Nash and owners Joe and Clara Wu Tsai.

"We are focusing on basketball, with one collective goal in mind: build a lasting franchise to bring a championship to Brooklyn," Marks added.

That is certainly more likely by keeping Durant, who remains one of the best scorers in the NBA. He is set to begin a four-year extension he signed last summer, and the possibility of him being traded had been the biggest story in the NBA this summer.

It's unknown exactly why he sought a trade, which came at the end of a turbulent year in Brooklyn. A championship favorite before last season began, the



Brooklyn Nets' Kevin Durant smiles during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Indiana Pacers at the Barclays Center, Sunday, Apr. 10, 2022, in New York. AP

Nets barely made the playoffs and then were bounced by Boston in four games in the first round.

The Nets then refused to give a contract extension to

Kyrie Irving, Durant's close friend, forcing him to pick up his option for next season, the final year of his deal.

The uncertainty around Durant's future in Brook-

lyn likely contributed to the Nets being left off the five-game Christmas lineup and being scheduled to appear only eight times on ABC and ESPN.

But with Durant, the Nets can still be one of the best teams in the Eastern Conference. He averaged a franchise-record 29.9 points last season, and the Nets were bidding for the top spot in the East before he suffered a knee injury that sidelined him for 21 games.

With Durant, Irving and Ben Simmons, who is ex-

pected to return after not playing for the Nets last season following his trade from Philadelphia, the Nets will have a top trio. Joe Harris also will be back after the two-time NBA leader in 3-point percentage was limited to just 14 games because of left ankle surgery.

It would have been hard for Durant to find many better situations, and the Nets likely had little interest in trying to land him one. Few teams could have offered the type of trade package the Nets would have sought and still been able to remain a championship contender.

The Nets believed they had built one in the 2020-21 season after acquiring James Harden to play with Durant and Irving. But they dealt with injuries throughout that season and were eliminated by eventual champion Milwaukee in seven games in the Eastern Conference semifinals, despite Durant scoring 48 points in the final game, the most ever in a Game 7.

Durant was brilliant again last season but couldn't save a season that was marred by Irving missing most of Brooklyn's home games because he refused to get vaccinated against the coronavirus. Harden then asked to be traded and was swapped in the deal for Simmons in February.

All of that likely frustrated Durant, who left Golden State in 2019 after two championships in three seasons to come with Irving to Brooklyn.

And now, that's where he'll stay.

Emoni Bates officially transfers to Eastern Michigan



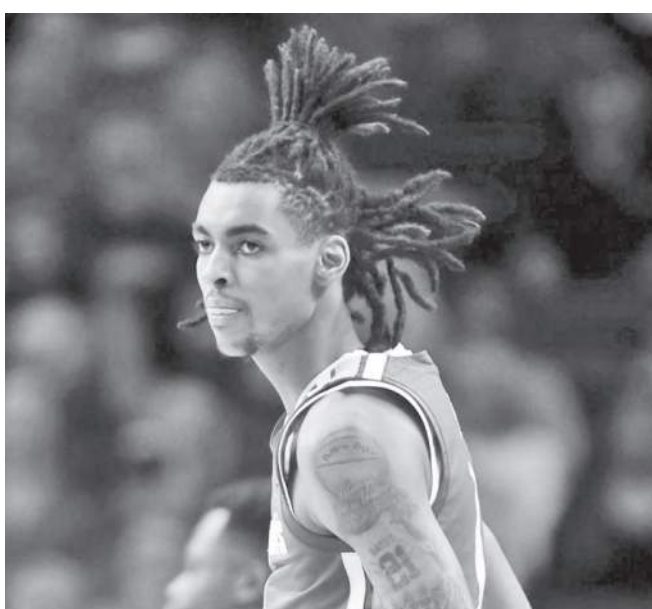
YPSILANTI, Mich. (AP)—Emoni Bates has officially transferred to Eastern Michigan.

The school announced Tuesday that the 6-foot-9 guard will play for his hometown Eagles this season, nearly two months after Bates shared his plans on social media.

"I love my city and coming home to do something special was big for me," Bates said. "I've known several of the guys on the team from playing together and competing. Having a strong relationship and bond with my teammates and coaching staff was important to me."

He averaged 9.7 points and 3.3 rebounds per game last season as a freshman at Memphis, where he enrolled after reclassifying to skip a year of high school and join the class of 2021.

Bates became the first sophomore to win the Gatorade national player of the year award in high school basketball in 2020, beating out Cade Cunningham and Evan



Then-Memphis forward Emoni Bates looks on during the first half of a first-round NCAA college basketball tournament game against Boise State, on March 17, 2022, in Portland, Ore. AP

Mobley. Detroit drafted Cunningham No. 1 overall last year, two spots before Cleveland took Mobley in the 2021 NBA draft.

Bates committed to playing for Tom Izzo at Michigan State two years ago, later de-committed and signed with Memphis. Bates played in 18 games for the Tigers, who finished

22-11 under Penny Hardaway. Bates missed much of the season with a back injury before appearing in Memphis' two NCAA Tournament games.

Bates announced in April that he was leaving the school and later said he would decide among Michigan, Arkansas, Seton Hall, DePaul, Louisville and Eastern Michigan.

In 2019 as a freshman, the slender and skilled guard led Ypsilanti Lincoln to a state title and was named Michigan's Division 1 Player of the Year by The Associated Press. His sophomore season was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic and he attended Ypsi Prep Academy as a junior, his final year of high school.

Eastern Michigan was 10-21 overall and 5-15 in the Mid-American Conference last season and has not appeared in the NCAA Tournament since 1998.

Eagles coach Stan Heath is entering his second season at the school. He is a former Izzo assistant and was head coach at Kent State, which he led to the round of eight in the 2002 NCAA Tournament, Arkansas and South Florida.

"I realize what a special moment this is by having a No. 1-ranked player in the country in Emoni Bates join our program," Heath said. "He is an NBA talent and we are committed to winning and helping him and his teammates reach their dreams."

NBA BRIEFS

Jalen Harris reinstated by NBA, players' association

NEW YORK (AP)—Jalen Harris' application to be reinstated as an NBA player has been approved by the league and the National Basketball Players Association.

The league announced that decision Tuesday. Harris was dismissed from the league on July 1, 2021, for testing positive for a prohibited substance under the NBA/NBPA Anti-Drug Program.

As a first-year player at the time, he was eligible to reapply after a year.

Harris averaged 7.4 points and 13.2 minutes in 13 games during the 2020-21 season for Toronto on a two-way contract. He also played seven regular-season games and two playoff games for Raptors 905 in

the G League.

Toronto drafted Harris with the 59th pick in 2020. He spent his first two college seasons at Louisiana Tech and averaged 21.7 points for Nevada in 2019-20.

Bulls rookie Lewis needs knee surgery, out indefinitely

CHICAGO (AP)—Bulls rookie Justin Lewis needs surgery to repair an injury to the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee and is out indefinitely.

Chicago said Tuesday that Lewis was injured last weekend and will have surgery in the coming weeks.

The 6-foot-8 forward went undrafted after averaging 16.8 points and 7.9 rebounds as a sophomore at Marquette. He signed with the Bulls in July.

Verlander pulled after 6 no-hit innings, Astros beat Twins



HOUSTON (AP)—Justin Verlander was totally fine leaving with a no-hitter intact after six innings against the Minnesota Twins on Tuesday night.

"I like to go deep in games in the regular season, but I'd rather do it in the postseason or at least be fresh and strong for that," the Houston ace said.

Verlander posted his major league-leading 16th win and the Astros beat the Minnesota Tuesday night in Carlos Correa's return to Houston.

Verlander (16-3) allowed just one runner to reach base — Nick Gordon struck out in the second inning on a wild pitch to get aboard. Verlander fanned 10 and lowered his MLB-best ERA to 1.87 in his spectacular return after missing almost two seasons after Tommy John surgery.

Manager Dusty Baker said Verlander was on a pitch limit of 90 Tuesday as the Astros transition from a six to five-man rotation. But he still asked Verlander if he wanted to keep going since he hadn't allowed a hit.

"After six innings at ... 91 pitches, you know it's not going to be one of those nights," Verlander said. "Maybe 15 years ago, 10 years ago when I loved throwing 130-something. But not now and specifically not after Tommy John in my first season back."

The 39-year-old Verlander was pulled after 91 pitches. He is the only active player to have thrown three no-hitters — in May, he lost a no-hit try against the Twins in the eighth inning at Target Field.

Ryne Stanek relieved to begin the seventh and Correa led off with Minnesota's first hit.

"I didn't want to get no-hit on the first game back, so I had to drop that one in there," Correa said.

Alex Bregman's homer helped the AL West-leading Astros build a 4-0 lead. The Twins scored twice in the ninth and had the bases loaded before Bryan Abreu struck out Jake Cave to end it.

Yankees 4, Mets 2

In New York, Aaron Judge hit a 453-foot drive halfway up the bleachers for his 48th home run and added an RBI single during a seventh-inning rally, boosting the Yankees past the Mets for a two-game Subway Series sweep.

Rookie Clarke Schmidt (5-2) worked three innings of scoreless relief, departing in the ninth after loading the bases with two outs. Wandy Peralta relieved and retired Francisco Lindor on a flyout for his second save.

Andrew Benintendi had his third straight big day at

the plate, singling in the go-ahead run for a 3-2 lead in the seventh against Joely Rodriguez (0-3).

The Yankees have won three straight for only the second time since the All-Star break.

Cardinals 13, Cubs 3, game 2 Cubs 2, Cardinals 0, game 1

In Chicago, Nolan Arenado and Tyler O'Neill homered in a five-run fourth inning. Corey Dickerson had four hits and St. Louis split a doubleheader with Chicago.

The Cubs blanked the Cardinals 2-0 in the opener, ending St. Louis' season-best eight-game winning streak.

The NL Central-leading Cardinals got back on track in the nightcap with 16 hits. Tommy Edman had a solo homer, a double and three RBIs.

Jake Woodford (3-0) allowed one run on four hits in 5 1/3 innings in his first start this season.

Hitless in the opener, Arenado went 3-for-4 in the nightcap, taking Adrian Sampson (1-4) deep in the fourth.

In the opener, Javier Assad pitched four scoreless innings in his major league debut. Relievers Michael Rucker (3-1), Sean Newcomb, Erich Uelmen and Brandon Hughes allowed one hit over the final five innings. Hughes picked up his third save.

Nico Hoerner and Seiya Suzuki drove in runs off St. Louis starter Adam Wainwright (9-9) in the third. Rookie Christopher Morel had two hits for the Cubs.

Rays 11, Angels 1

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Christian Bethancourt had two run-scoring hits in a six-run seventh inning and later moved from behind the plate to pitch a scoreless ninth as Tampa Bay beat Los Angeles.

The Rays own the top AL wild-card spot. They have won four straight and 10 of 12.

Bethancourt homered and hit a two-run single. On the mound, his fastball topped out at 95 mph as he allowed two hits and struck out Luis Rengifo.

Corey Kluber (8-7) gave up one run on five hits in six innings.

Manuel Margot and Harold Ramirez had run-scoring singles in the third off José Suarez (4-6).

Braves 6, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Max Fried allowed three hits in eight innings as Atlanta beat Pittsburgh.

Fried (12-4) struck out seven and walked one, retiring 20 of the final 23 batters he faced, and allowed one run.



Houston Astros starting pitcher Justin Verlander throws against the Minnesota Twins during the first inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2022, in Houston.

The Braves have won 13 of 15, while the Pirates have dropped 10 of 12.

Travis d'Arnaud homered off JT Brubaker (3-11) for the first of five Atlanta runs in the fifth.

Orioles 5, White Sox 3

In Baltimore, Ryan Mountcastle hit a three-run homer off Dylan Cease in the first inning and Baltimore held off Chicago.

Cease (12-6) allowed four runs in 5 1/3 innings, his second straight start allowing at least three earned runs after he went 14 in a row yielding no more than one.

Austin Voth (4-1) allowed two runs and seven hits in 5 2/3 innings. Félix Bautista pitched out of an eighth-inning jam and got five outs for his ninth save.

Eloy Jiménez hit a two-run homer in the first inning for Chicago and left the game after being hit by 102 mph fastball from Bautista.

Blue Jays 9, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Jackie Bradley Jr. doubled and scored to key an eight-run third inning as Toronto rolled past his former team.

Ross Stripling (6-3) yielded one run off six hits and struck out six over six innings.

Boston's Josh Winckowski (5-7) lasted 2 2/3 innings, allowing six runs, six hits and walking two.

George Springer had two hits and drove in three runs in his return to the Toronto lineup at designated hitter. The Blue Jays have won five of six and kept pace with Tampa Bay in the AL wild-card race.

Phillies 7, Reds 6

In Philadelphia, Nick Maton's

pinch-hit single with one out in the bottom of the ninth gave Philadelphia the win over Cincinnati.

Matt Vierling homered and J.T. Realmuto had a two-run triple for the wild card-contending Phillies.

Maton lined a 2-2 pitch from Alexis Diaz (4-2) to right field to score Bryson Stott.

Brad Hand (3-1) got the victory despite surrendering two unearned runs in the ninth, giving Cincinnati a 6-5 lead.

Giants 3, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Carlos Rodón worked seven strong innings and San Francisco beat Detroit.

Evan Longoria homered for the Giants.

Rodón allowed one run on five hits and struck out 10 without walking a batter.

San Francisco closer Camilo Doval loaded the bases with one out in the ninth but struck out Miguel Cabrera and got Harold Castro to ground out for his 18th save.

Drew Hutchison (1-7) allowed one run on four hits in five innings.

Rockies 7, Rangers 6

In Denver, C.J. Cron hit a go-ahead three-run homer in the seventh inning and Elias Díaz also had a three-run homer as Colorado overcame two three-run deficits to beat Texas.

Cron's two-out homer came after a fielding error by shortstop Corey Seager. Charlie Blackmon beat out an infield single with two outs before Cron hit his 24th homer of the season off Brock Burke (6-3).

Marcus Semien and Nathaniel Lowe homered and drove in two runs apiece and Adolis García extended his hitting streak to 20 games for

the Rangers.

Justin Lawrence (2-1) struck out the side in the seventh and Daniel Bard pitched around a one-out double by Jonah Heim in the ninth for his 26th save in 29 chances.

Diamondbacks 7, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Mo., Christian Walker had three hits, including a run-scoring double, and Arizona beat Kansas City.

Walker's two-out double highlighted a three-run eighth against Josh Staumont (3-3) to extend the Diamondbacks' lead to 5-1.

Arizona starter Zach Davies didn't allow a baserunner until Bobby Witt Jr. hammered his 17th homer to left field with one out in the fourth. Reliever Joe Mantiply (2-4) got four outs to earn the win.

Marlins 5, Athletics 3

In Oakland, Calif., Brian Anderson homered, Pablo López pitched six scoreless innings and Miami withstood Oakland's ninth-inning rally.

López (8-8) struck out five, allowing four hits and two walks.

Tanner Scott came on with two outs and a runner on third in the ninth after the A's had scored three times and retired Sheldon Neuse for his 19th save in 24 opportunities.

Rookie Zach Logue (3-8) gave up two runs on three hits in 5 1/3 innings.

Dodgers 10, Brewers 1

In Los Angeles, Tony Gonsolin combined with four pitchers on a four-hitter in his major league-tying 16th victory, and the Dodgers beat the Brewers.

Trayce Thompson blasted a three-run homer in the second

and drove in another run as part of a 2 for 3 performance. Freddie Freeman went 3 for 5 with four RBI in helping the Dodgers bounce back after being shut out at home for the first time this season in a 4-0 loss in the series opener Monday.

Gonsolin (16-1) tied Houston's Justin Verlander, who earned his 16th win earlier Tuesday. Gonsolin, the majors' ERA leader at 2.10, outdued current NL Cy Young Award winner Corbin Burnes (9-6) in a first-time matchup of former Saint Mary's College teammates.

Burnes (9-6) got tagged for seven runs and six hits in 3 2/3 innings, equaling his shortest outing of the season.

Guardians 3, Padres 1

In San Diego, rookie Oscar Gonzalez and Andrés Giménez homered off former Cleveland pitcher Mike Clevinger and the AL Central-leading Guardians beat the Padres.

Gonzalez hit a line shot to left field with two outs in the second, his fourth. Giménez drove a ball deep into the seats down the right field line leading off the fifth, his 15th.

San Diego, which came in leading Milwaukee by 1 1/2 games for the NL's third wild card spot, lost for the sixth time in 10 games.

Clevinger (4-5) was facing the Guardians for the second time since they traded him to San Diego in a nine-player deal during the pandemic-shortened 2020 season.

Nick Sandlin (5-2) pitched 1 1/3 innings for the win and Emmanuel Clase pitched the ninth for his 29th save.

Mariners 4, Nationals 2

In Seattle, Robbie Ray took a no-hit try into the seventh inning. Mitch Haniger and Eugenio Suárez both hit two-run homers and the Mariners beat the Nationals.

Ray (10-8), last year's AL Cy Young winner with Toronto, had issued just a pair of walks through six before surrendering a leadoff home run by rookie Joey Meneses in the seventh.

Ray exited after an infield single by Lane Thomas with one out, receiving a standing ovation. He struck seven and walked two. Paul Sewald gave up a run in the ninth while getting his 16th save.

Erick Fedde (5-8) made his first start since July 24 after recovering from shoulder inflammation and coming off the injured list. The right-hander allowed two runs, on Haniger's homer, in five innings.

UOG Baseball Tritons takes no break

The University of Guam Baseball Team takes no break, as the Tritons just came off a very successful first season in the Guam Major League with an 8-6 record and tied for a fifth place finish out of 12 teams in the standings.

Fall tryouts begin on Thursday and Friday of this week at George Washington High School baseball field for full-time UOG students to play baseball in the fall semester, as the Tritons will join the Guam Amateur League for their fall season in the 10-team league. The UOG squad expects most of their players from the Spring/Summer team to rejoin the squad plus add at least five new players

ADEN

From Page 20

vision (285 lbs) to earn the coveted triple crown.

To complete a triple crown, a wrestler must win a folkstyle, freestyle and Greco-Roman national championship in the same calendar year, according to USA Wrestling.

The son of Jesse Attao and Stacey Hammar, Aden last visited the CNMI in 2011 when he was 6 years old.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	76	48	.613	
Tampa Bay	67	55	.549	8
Toronto	66	55	.545	8½
Baltimore	64	58	.525	11
Boston	60	63	.488	15½
Central Division				
Cleveland	65	56	.537	
Minnesota	62	59	.512	3
Chicago	62	61	.504	4
Kansas City	50	75	.400	17
Detroit	47	77	.379	19½
West Division				
Houston	79	45	.637	
Seattle	67	56	.545	11½
Texas	56	67	.455	22½
Los Angeles	52	71	.423	26½
Oakland	45	79	.363	34
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	79	46	.632	
Atlanta	77	48	.616	2
Philadelphia	68	55	.553	10
Miami	54	69	.439	24
Washington	41	83	.331	37½
Central Division				
St. Louis	71	52	.577	
Milwaukee	65	57	.533	5½
Chicago	53	70	.431	18
Cincinnati	48	73	.397	22
Pittsburgh	47	76	.382	24
West Division				
Los Angeles	85	37	.697	
San Diego	68	57	.544	18½
San Francisco	61	61	.500	24
Arizona	56	66	.459	29
Colorado	54	70	.435	32

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Group photo of the Spring/Summer UOG Baseball Tritons Team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

» Back at tryouts tomorrow for Fall 2022 season

to the roster if not more.

Coach Roke Alcantara Jr. hopes to have a roster of 18 players or maybe a few more (Amateur League allows up to 24 players). The Tritons struggled at times during the Guam Major League season with only 10-12 players

TOKAHAO

From Page 20

kiel Fitial.

Tokahao would make the celebration brief though as Quitigua and Jerome Delos Santos blasted home runs in the bottom of the inning to score four more runs to make it 10-2.

Momma Charo couldn't score the rest of the way and to put more salt on the wound, Tokahao would connect on two more moonshots to put the 10-run mercy run rule in effect.

Winning pitcher David had a home run along with four RBIs after going 2-3 at-bat and a run. Quitigua also had four RBIs while going 3-3 at the plate for Tokahao, which improved its record to 4-2.

Fitial led the now 3-3 Momma Charo with two RBIs after going .500 at the plate.

SIKKEL

From Page 20

data, too."

Sikkel also got a kick out of the head-to-head between Team USA and the Australian Dolphin Team.

"Well, the U.S. cleaned up in the duel in the pool. It was a different and fun format," he said, while admitting he might've been the only one among workshop participants that rooted for the U.S.

Sikkel said he also liked the Para swimmers taking part in the Pool Duel be-

UOG in search of women's soccer head coach

The University of Guam is in search for a new women's soccer head coach for the Triton Athletics and Field House Department.

The position is a part-time job for \$6,000 and has the following job description:

■ Guam Business License (up to date) in the appropri-

ate area or related area

■ Follow the rules and regulations set out by the University of Guam

■ Follow the rules and regulations set out by Triton Athletics and Field House Department

■ Have up to date CPR, First Aid and AED training

certificates

■ Recruit players to the University of Guam and women's soccer program

■ Teach the fundamentals of soccer

■ Supervise players, assistant coach(es)

■ Coach the team at practices and games

■ Fundraise for the program

■ Other areas as assigned by the athletic director

Applicants must send a cover letter, resume, and three references to Doug Palmer, Athletics director at the University of Guam. Email to palmerd@triton.uog.edu. (PR)

Asahi 25, Salty Boys 5

Steve Bael had six RBIs after a perfect 3-3 performance from the plate to lead Asahi to a 25-5 demolition job of still winless Salty Boys.

Asahi punched-drunk Salty Boys in the first inning as a parade of singles and Bael's triple scored six runners.

Dominic Ito helped his cause as winning pitcher and Joe Ito connected on a triple of his own as Asahi continued to pile on the runs and led, 14-2, after two innings.

The hits kept on coming for Ashai in the third as even a pitching change by Salty Boys couldn't stop the deluge as their deficit ballooned to 21-3.

Hideo again scored a round-tripper and Ito tripled as four more Asahi runners made a beeline to home plate to make it 25-3. Hideo then allowed two Salty Boys to score in the fourth before ultimately shutting the rest of the batting or-

der down to end the game via mercy rule.

Asahi raised its record to 3-3, while Salty Boys went deeper down the cellar at 0-7.

Man Amigos 16, Sufa 10

Man Amigos improved to a league-leading 6-1 thanks to Mario Aguon whose four homers single-handedly beat Sufa, 16-10.

Aguon unloaded his round-trippers in the second, fourth, fifth, and sixth innings.

His second home run was especially crucial as it came after a Peter Sablan grand slam that gave Man Amigos the lead at 10-9.

Eric Palacios, Sablan, and Aguon also homered as part of Man Amigos' five-run sixth inning to finally keep the game out of reach.

Aguon and Palacios each had five RBIs, while Sablan complemented Aguon's four



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

UOG Baseball Tritons coach Roke Alcantara Jr. works out a player trying out for the Tritons back in December.

available for games and the coaching staff had to play at times.

The Guam Amateur League begins play during the Labor Day Weekend coming up soon at the Ok-

kodo High Baseball Field.

For more information about Baseball Tryouts, contact UOG Athletics director Doug Palmer at palmerd@triton.uog.edu or call at 671-735-2862. (PR)

home runs with two of his own to lead Man Amigos.

Sufa, which dropped to 2-3, was led by Jude Dickinson and Jun Salila's four RBIs each. The latter also had two homers and the former one.

Ngaraard Redman 17, Aimeliik 3

Ngaraard Redman run-ruled Aimeliik, 17-3, in a game that saw Peyton Sakura go a perfect 3-3 from the plate and score six runners.

Sakura and company jumped the gun early on Aimeliik as they went up 14-1 after four innings.

Ngaraard Redman would score three more runs in the fourth against Aimeliik's two runs to make it, 17-3. Juan Diaz would then retire Aimeliik's batters in order in the top of the sixth to end the game prematurely.

Ngaraard Redman is now 3-2 after the lopsided win,

while Aimeliik dropped to 2-5.

Peleliu 23, Hagu Lamun 19

Peleliu repulsed a scorching rally by Hagu Lamun to eke out a 23-19 victory.

Aided by home runs from John Tarkong, Alvin Salas, and Ben Hocog and triples from Cart Sablan and Juan Lizama, Peleliu opened with a massive 16-0 lead after one inning.

It was 20-2 after two innings, but Hagu Lamun rallied with 16 runs in the next three to make a game out of it.

Luckily, Tarkong homered and crucial singles from Salas and Hocog allowed two more runs to score to give Peleliu a cushion leading, 23-18. Mitch Aaron scored the game's last run when he was singled in by Joe Celis to finish the game.

Peleliu and Hagu Lamun are now tied in the standings at 3-3 after the game.

tween U.S. swimmers and Australian swimmers.

"The inclusion of Para athletes in this competition was a first too. Very cool. Including a relay with able-bodied athletes paired with Para athletes of all different categories."

Aside from Sikkel, 13 other coaches from Oceania were invited to attend the Oceania Coaches Workshop and Duel in the Pool from Aug. 19-21, 2022. The workshop was supported by the Oceania Swimming Association.

"I want to thank the Ocea-

nia Swimming Association for supporting the federations and coaches from some of the smaller nations that fall under Oceania to attend this workshop facilitated by expert high performance coaches. I also want to thank the Northern Marianas Swimming Federation for recommending me for this opportunity. As a coach I am always looking to learn and grow. Having hands-on experience under the guidance of coaches who coach at the highest level in the sport will hopefully allow me to replicate some of their methods

and techniques and raise the level of swimming in the NMI," Sikkel earlier said.

The objective of the three-day event was to further develop and enhance the capacity of swim coaches from the member federations by supporting them to attend a development workshop, SwimCon and Duel in the Pool.

The workshop is designed to incorporate Oceania coaches attending SwimCon and will be facilitated by Haydn Belshaw from Swimming Australia and a number of other expert swimming coaches. The workshop in-

cluded a range of theory and practical activities for attending coaches.

SwimCon is also a leadership and innovation conference, bringing together experts and leaders from across the industry to present on key challenges and opportunities facing sports.

Further, it brings together experts in technology, coaching, and culture development, athlete health and well-being, inclusion and the pathway to 2032. SwimCon is intended for coaches, managers and administrators in the sport of swimming.



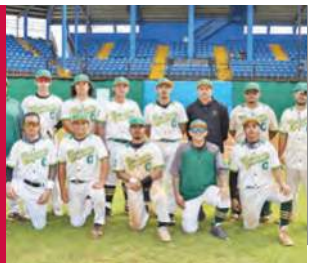
Durant, Nets plan to move forward together instead of trade

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UOG Baseball Tritons takes no break

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20 THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Aden bags bronze in Worlds Championships



By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Aden Attao took the bronze medal in the heavyweight division at the U20 World Championships held last weekend in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Making his U20 World Championship debut, the 17-year-old defeated two-time age-group African champion Fekry Eissa of Egypt in the battle for the bronze to secure the podium finish.

In a report from USA Wrestling, Attao put 8 points on the board in the first period with a massive head pinch and a head lock to take an 8-2 lead into the break.

After the two exchanged step-out points, Attao countered an arm spin from Eissa to ice the match, 11-3.

Attao, who is the grandson of Jesus and Ramona Attao of Saipan, dedicated the bronze medal in the U20 World Championships to everyone who supported his wrestling career.

"This medal isn't just for me, this was for my friends, family, and country. It's for everyone who has had my back since I started this jour-

ney," he said.

The Boise, Idaho native said competing in the U20 World Championships was the stuff dreams are made of.

"It was an amazing experience and I am glad I got the opportunity to show what I have and what I bring to the table. It was such a cool experience," said Attao.

As for future plans, the USA Greco-Roman national champion said he will take a much-deserved break and ponder what college he will attend.

"I am taking a couple of weeks off to recover and just spend time with family and friends but also get caught

up with school, then I have my college visits so I can see which school I wanna spend the next 4-5 years of life at," he said.

Last month, Attao completed a triple crown in junior wrestling after winning gold in the 2022 USMC Junior Greco-Roman Nationals in Fargo, North Dakota.

He defeated Sebastian Lopez of Kansas in the finals of the weightlifting di-

See ADEN on Page 19



Aden Attao poses with his bronze medal in the U20 World Championships in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Aden Attao grapples with Egypt's Fekry Eissa in the bronze medal heavyweight match of the U20 World Championships held last weekend in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Tokahao returns to winnings ways

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR



Tokahao bounced back from last week's loss to league-leader Man Amigos by run-ruling Momma Charo, 13-2, in the 2022 Budweiser Belau

Amateur Softball Association League last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.

Pitcher George David made a 3-run home run right from the get-go to give Tokahao a 4-0 lead. Peter Camacho later crossed home plate to make it 5-0.

Jeff Cruz then singled to

score Clint Quitigua in the second as Tokahao continued to spot Momma Charo, 6-0, after two innings.

Momma Charo finally got on the board in the fourth when Leo Bobai and J.J. Laniyo scored on a single by Henry Kani and a sacrifice fly by Ize-

See TOKAHAO on Page 19



MARK RABAGO

George David pitches against Momma Charo in the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.

Sikkel says 'cool new things' at Swimcom

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR



Richard Sikkel recently attended the Oceania Coaches Workshop and Duel in the Pool in Australia and the Saipan Swim Club coach only had good things to say about the three-day event.

"Swimcom had some cool new things. Mainly good to catch up and connect with other Oceania coaches," he said.

Sikkel said while no new knowledge on swimming techniques were shared during the confab, he still learned a thing or two, especially in the area of how to interpret swimmers' data.

"No new swim techniques, that would've been huge. More innovations in general with data usage etc. Too expensive to implement for small nations, but we collect

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Richard Sikkel, fourth from left standing, poses with the other Oceania coaches who attended the Oceania Coaches Workshop and Duel in the Pool in Australia.